

DAILY REPORT

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UPPER HOUSE PASSES DIET SEAT REDISTRIBUTION BILL

OW221333 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO -- The upper house approved a Diet seat redistribution bill in an unusual late night vote Thursday, clearing a hurdle for Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to call a double election, possibly in early July. The House of Councillors action completed the legislative process, and Emperor Hirohito is expected to sign the bill into law Friday following cabinet endorsement.

The Liberal-Democratic Party, along with opposition Komeito voted for the bill, following the same pattern as the lower house vote Wednesday. The upper house vote, which came shortly after 10 p.m., took place literally minutes before the Diet closed its 150-day ordinary session. The unusual late night vote marked a desperate opposition attempt to frustrate Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's attempt to call a snap lower house election simultaneously with a scheduled poll for the upper house.

The bill, based on a formula recommended by Lower House Speaker Michita Sakata, transfers seven seats from rural to urban constituencies while adding a new city seat to the 511-member lower house. The legislation also changed the boundaries in three constituencies in a shuffle aimed at meeting a supreme court ruling that the discrepancy in Diet representation must not exceed three times between the least and the most populated districts.

Before the shuffle, it took voters in Chiba No. 4 district 5, 11 times as many ballots to elect a lower house member than those in rural Hyogo No. 5 -- the greatest discrepancy among the 130 electoral districts in Japan. This adjustment approved by the Diet reduces the gap to a ratio of 1 to 2.99 -- just below the 1-to-3 tolerance declared by the Supreme Court in its landmark ruling last July.

In seeking Diet approval of the bill, the LDP has pledged to make more drastic measures to correct the representation when final results of the latest national census taken in October last year are released this fall. Opposition parties are also seeking a complete revision of the representation, as the bill enacted Thursday contains the creation of a six-member constituency, in Hokkaido, and leaving four constituencies with only two Diet seats each. The opposition camp is unhappy with the bill primarily on grounds that the new two-seat constituencies mark a departure from the traditional medium-sized three-to-five seat constituencies adopted in Japan. Behind this argument is a fear, particularly among the smaller parties, that the LDP, possibly together with the top opposition Socialist Party, could monopolize Diet representation if smaller two-seat constituencies become the standard sometime in the future. The Diet bill will come into force 30 days after proclamation -- a requirement written into the Sakata formula reportedly at the insistence of the opposition camp.

The notification requirement became the focus of debate after the Sakata plan was revealed early this month as it effectively scuttled Nakasone's bid to call a double election on June 22. Nakasone is now believed to be eyeing a double election for July 6, by summoning the Diet back into an extraordinary session in early June and then disbanding the lower house for the election.

Apart from the opposition camp, resistance to a double election is also strong within the LDP because critics fear a major victory in the polls may give Nakasone a chance to remain in office after his second two-year term ends in October. The front runners in the LDP contest for Nakasone's job are Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and LDP Executive Council Chairman Kiichi Miyazawa.

OPPOSITION CRITICIZES NAKASONE, DUAL ELECTIONS

OW221025 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 22 May 86

[Excerpts] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO -- The opposition camp Thursday unleashed a bitter attack on Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in a last-ditch to frustrate a double election which Nakasone's allies are touting for early July. However, prospects of the general election picked up more steam Thursday as a group of Liberal-Democratic Party legislators presented a petition to the party calling for the poll.

In a strongly-worded statement released Thursday, the leaders of four opposition parties chastized Nakasone for "trampling" on constitutional and parliamentary rules by threatening to disband the lower house and call a general election. The statement -- signed by leaders of the top opposition Socialist Party, Komeito, Democratic Socialist Party and United Democratic Socialist Party -- reflected the increasing frustration of the opposition as the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party plunged into a series of behind-the-scenes maneuvers on whether to endorse a general election.

Despite their objection, opposition parties appeared to be resigned to the prospects of a double election. In a caucus meeting Thursday, Socialist Party Secretary General Makoto Tanabe said a general election is now "accepted by and large" among politicians.

The balloting date that has been widely suggested for a double election of both houses of the Diet is July 6.

Proponents of a double election, notably LDP Secretary General Shin Kanemaru, argue that the LDP needs the poll in order to bolster its strength in the Diet. The LDP now controls 250 seats in the 511-member lower house, and relies for its majority on the eight-member support of the New Liberal Club, its coalition partner.

Nakasone's critics within the LDP, however, object to a double election, claiming that a victory at the polls would encourage Nakasone to hang on in office after his second two-year term ends in October. Nakasone, who alone is empowered to dissolve the Diet and call an early general election, has withheld any public comment on the subject. However, he has made it abundantly clear through his close associates that he wants a "double election" even though his original plan to go the people in June was frustrated by the seat-redistribution bill.

KANEMARU MEETS LDP LEADERS ON ELECTION PLAN

OW230601 Tokyo KYODO in English 0546 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone came under fire from elder leaders of his Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) Friday for wanting to call a double election of both houses of the Diet, party sources said. LDP Secretary General Shin Kanemaru, making a round of calls to former Prime Ministers Takeo Fukuda, Takeo Miki, Nobusuke Kishi and Zenko Suzuki, had asked them to agree to the plan.

Fukuda urged Kanemaru to win party consensus and to find just reason before convening an extra Diet session to dissolve the lower house, the sources said.

Miki, denouncing Nakasone for adopting an authoritarian style of leadership, opposed the idea of twin elections this summer and called for party unity and for government action to save small businesses hard-hit by the rise in the yen's exchange value. Kishi also asked Kanemaru to strengthen party solidarity, the sources said.

Six top officers of the ruling party will meet Monday to decide whether to endorse Nakasone's plan to call a twin election this summer, party officials said. On Thursday, Nakasone cleared one of the hurdles to calling a double election when the Diet enacted a lower house seat redistribution bill. The cabinet promulgated the law after gaining sanction from Emperor Hirohito Thursday, government officials said.

The law sets a 30-day notification period and would be applicable to a general election campaign beginning on June 21 or later. Nakasone is reportedly considering convening an extra Diet session June 2 and dissolving the House of Representatives the same day. A general election is likely to be called July 6 to coincide with a regular election of half the 252 members of the House of Councillors.

ABE, WATANABE OPPOSE U.S. OMNIBUS TRADE BILL

OW230739 Tokyo KYODO in English 0729 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO -- Japan Friday asked the Reagan Administration to make every effort to prevent Senate approval of the U.S. House Omnibus Trade Bill, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said. The request was made through the Japanese embassy in Washington.

Abe made the disclosure in commenting on reports that the Democratic-controlled U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved a trade reform bill Thursday which Japan fears will set off a trade war. Abe and Michio Watanabe minister of international trade and industry, also said that the highly protectionist bill would be detrimental to the free trade system. Abe, Watanabe and Megumu Sato, minister of posts and telecommunications, expressed their deep concern over the growing trade protectionist trends in the U.S. They made comments in their separate press conferences after the cabinet meeting.

Foreign Minister Abe noted with concern that an unexpectedly large number of Republicans joined the Democrats in voting for the bill. The number of those supporting the bill is enough to override a possible presidential veto, he said, adding that this would spur the protectionist movement. The foreign minister also said the Japanese Government would step up its approaches to U.S. congressional and related quarters through the Japanese Embassy in Washington to block Senate passage of the bill.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement issued that the Japanese Government would continue its efforts for improved market access, domestic demand expansion and economic restructuring in order to check protectionism and sustain the free trade system. Sato also issued a statement expressing his wish for a fair evaluation by the US. Congress of the measures so far taken by the Japanese Government to open its market wider to foreign products.

SOUTH AFRICAN 'AGGRESSIVE ACTS' DENOUNCED

SK221045 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA) -- MINJU CHOSON Thursday denounces the South African racists' brutal armed attacks on Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana as an open infringement upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of those countries and a heinous crime disturbing peace and security in the region. The paper says: The Korean people bitterly condemn the brutal armed attack by the South African racists and express full support and firm solidarity for the peoples and liberation movements in the region in their struggle to defend the country's sovereignty and national dignity.

The armed attacks on the capitals of Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia were an offspring of the crisis of the South African racists who feel uneasiness and fear of the developments in this region. With their aggressive acts against the frontline states of Africa, the South African racist clique intends to check the people's struggle for the complete liberation of Southern Africa and save themselves from the tight corner. But this is a mistake. The reckless armed attacks going against the trend of times will land the South African racists in worse straits.

SOUTH HOLDS SIMULATED NORTHWARD INVASION EXERCISE

SK230432 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Pyongyang May 23 (KCNA) -- The U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique on May 20 held a provocative river-crossing operation exercise in a simulated attack on the north called "joint river-crossing support exercise", according to a radio report from Seoul. The exercise reminiscent of actual fighting was participated in by the Second U.S. Infantry Division occupying South Korea and a unit of the puppet army and various types of combat equipment, said the report.

That day the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and the South Korean puppet army kicked up a military racket to pave the way for northward invasion, clamouring about "reconstruction of a destroyed bridge" and "building of a makeshift bridge."

'SAVAGED ACT' BY U.S. TROOPS IN SOUTH ASSAILED

SK222318 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1149 GMT 21 May 86

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "The Savage Act of the U.S. Imperialist Beasts Cannot Be Tolerated"]

[Text] Recently, a great social stir has been created in South Korea, because the U.S. imperialist troops' violence on South Korean women committed during the criminal "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise has been disclosed. The act of collective rape, in which the U.S. imperialist aggressors attacked South Korean women and satisfied their dirty lust, is now arousing among the South Korean youths, students, and people burning curses, animosity, and national indignation against the U.S. savages. The act of collective rape disclosed recently has revealed the bestial nature of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and, thus, has shown to the world their moral debauchery.

Through the experiences in their daily life, the South Korean youths, students, people are fully aware of the wretchedness of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops. It is a well-known fact that the U.S. imperialist aggressors, while acting as masters in South Korea, are shooting people to death, crushing them with vehicles, stabbing them to death with bayonets, burning them to death, raping women, and strangling people to death.

When South Korean women didn't agree with them, the wretches cut their hair and painted the lower half of their bodies and drove them out on the street. They committed this kind of atrocity as a daily routine.

In December of last year, too, [name indistinct], a member of the U.S. Marine Corps unit based in Okinawa, who was rampaging in a war exercise, shot a South Korean woman passerby to death.

They are the descendants of the American cannibals, so they do whatever they want. As for the U.S. imperialist beasts, they are morally corrupt wretches and, thus, seek pleasure in doing dirty things that can be seen only in the animal world.

At present, the South Korean youths, students, and people are filled with indignation over the intolerable atrocities of the U.S. imperialists. Thus, they are exposing and condemning the wretches' criminal acts through leaflets and publications. Dismayed by this, the U.S. imperialists, in a so-called statement issued by the U.S. Embassy in South Korea, nonsensically said that the incident of collective rape was a political fabrication, thus flatly denying the incident. This is only a foolish trick to conceal the intolerable atrocity. Thus, it is an unbearable mockery of the South Korean youths and students, and an insult to those who have disclosed a fact. At the same time, this is intended for the purpose of dampening the growing anti-U.S. spirit for independence of the South Korean youths, students, and people. However, no one will be deceived by this.

Considering the fact that many of the U.S. imperialist aggressors have been infected by AIDS, a disease known as modern-day leprosy, consequences of the collective rape are worrisome. It is a well-known fact that AIDS, which is spreading like a pestilence in South Korea, has been brought in by the debauchees of the U.S. imperialist aggressors. The shameless beasts' dirty acts are attributable to their bestial nature and to the fact that they are treating the South Korean people as colonial slaves. Worse still, the Chon Tu-hwan clique, pro-U.S. traitors, while talking about so-called friendship, offer South Korean women as playthings for the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

However, when the South Korean youths and students protested the incident of collective rape, the clique said that a joint investigation with the U.S. military authorities disclosed that there was no such incident. It is actively trying to cover up the atrocities of the U.S. imperialists. Through the traitor Chon Tu-hwan's treacheries, the savage acts of the U.S. imperialist aggressors' acts of humiliating and insulting the South Korean people are being further intensified with each passing day.

Under these circumstances, those youths and students who are filled with ardent patriotism and who allow no injustice cannot sit idle before the insulting reality. The South Korean youths, students, and people will never tolerate the U.S. imperialist beasts who trample underfoot the chastity of Korean women. The U.S. imperialist aggressors must acknowledge their criminal acts, must apologize, and must withdraw from South Korea without delay and return to their dens in accordance with the demand of the youths, students, and people.

VNS BRANDS PRESENT SOUTH CONSTITUTION 'EVIL LAW'

SK220243 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 20 May 86

[Talk by station commentator Kim Chol-min in the "Hour for the Overseas Compatriots" feature program: "The Present Constitution Should Be Abolished"]

[Text] In the fatherland, a struggle of the opposition party, off-stage personages, and the masses of all walks of life, staged in support of the campaign of collecting 10 million signatures for constitutional revision, is now rapidly expanding and surging forward on a pan-national scope. As you may know, the struggle for constitutional revision is now being carried out with its local chapters established in Seoul, Pusan, Kwangju, Taegu, Taejon, Chongju, and Masan. Disconcerted very much by this, the Chon Tu-hwan group is harshly suppressing the struggle for constitutional revision by employing all forms of suppressive means.

It is, as a matter of course, a just and righteous act for our masses to rise up in a struggle in order to have the fascist constitution abolished and to oppose fascist dictatorship. It is because the present Constitution is not for the masses, but is for a handful of people of a privileged class and because it is a fascist evil law guaranteeing the Chon Tu-hwan group's one-man dictatorship as well as its permanent stay in power.

First of all, the truth about the present Constitution being a fascist evil law is well manifested by the fact that it completely tramples underfoot and obliterates the people's fundamental freedom and their democratic rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of publication, freedom of assembly, freedom of organization, and freedom of demonstration. The present Constitution stipulates that all people are provided with freedom of speech and freedom of publication and that individual's honor and rights as well as public morality and social ethics are inviolable. This is nothing but an excuse to arbitrarily suppress the press whenever it is found to be invidicous to their taste with various charges, including libels. The present Constitution also makes it clear that freedom of assembly and freedom of demonstration are guaranteed. In reality, however, not only is it ignored, but also those who do such things are harshly punished after being branded as leftist-leaning, reactionary elements who serve the cause of the enemy.

The act of suppressing the campaign of collecting 10 million signatures for constitutional revision is the case in point. Articles in the present Constitution dealing with the presidential election make it clear how antinational and antimass the present Constitution is. Article 39 in the Constitution stipulates that the president is elected by the electoral college by secret ballot. Although the voters are supposed to elect the president by secret ballot, they have to write out the names of the presidential candidates in the ballots. Therefore, it is nothing but a formal act like an ostrich burying its head in the sand, because the voters who blackballed can be easily detected by tracing their handwriting.

Simply put, electing the president by the electoral college means using the electoral college as a rubber-stamp to elect a single designated candidate as president, taking no notice of public will and without allowing anybody else to compete. How can this be called an election based on democratic principles? This means that Chon Tu-hwan elects himself president through the use of the electoral college for the presidential election. This, in fact, is no different from the National Council for Unification which former dictator Pak Chong-hui fabricated after the fabrication of the Yusin constitution for his permanent stay in power to have the electoral college elect the president.

Also, Article 76 of the present Constitution says that legislation is in the hands of the National Assembly. Although this makes it appear that the three branches of the government are separated, by stating in Article 57 in the present Constitution that the president is vested with the right to dissolve the National Assembly, Chon Tu-hwan is now free to spur his horse called National Assembly as he pleases. The same is true of the judiciary branch. Article 102 of the present Constitution says that the judicial power shall be vested in courts composed of judges. And Article 104 says that the judges shall judge independently according to their conscience and in conformity with the Constitution and law. Nevertheless, since the constitution stipulates that the Supreme Court and judges of this Supreme Court are to be appointed by the president, all the judges are followers of the president and the so-called independence of the judicial branch exists in name only. This, as it makes it possible for Chon Tu-hwan to wield a fascist sword called the judicial rights as he pleases, legally justifies his one-man dictatorship.

Also, the Constitution stipulates that the president cannot serve two presidential terms in succession. This is nothing but a trick aimed at deceiving the people. Whenever a presidential election was held, former dictator Pak Chong-hui pledged that he would run for presidency for only that time. However, he dreamed of being a president for life by revising the Constitution twice and met his downfall. There is no guarantee that Chon Tu-hwan would not try to reduce the clause prohibiting two presidential terms to a worthless waste.

Apart from such articles, a closer inspection of all the other articles in the Constitution reveals that the Constitution was written to favor Chon Tu-hwan's long-term office and is replete with such urges that the people must unconditionally obey the present fascist military dictatorship.

In conclusion, Chon Tu-hwan's fascist constitution is, from start to finish, a constitution written for one-man dictatorship and one-party domination of the politics against public will, as well as an antinational and treacherous constitution aimed at dividing the nation. Herein lies the reason as to why our masses are now struggling calling for an abolition of the Constitution and its revision.

Overseas compatriots: We unquestionably believe that you will extend support and solidarity to the struggle of the masses in the fatherland who are now determined to establish new democratic system after abolishing the fascist constitution and will eventually join in their struggle.

DJE INTERIM REPORT ON INCHON 'PROPAGANDA'

SK222300 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 20 May 86

[NODONG SINMUN 21 May commentary: "Fabricated Propaganda That Cannot Pass"]

[Text] On 19 May, the Chon Tu-hwan ring had the Security Department of the puppet Prosecutor General's Office announce the so-called interim result of the investigation into the riot incident in Inchon. They babbled that in the riot incident in Inchon on 3 May, the Committee for the Anti-imperialist and Antifascist Struggle for the Nation and Democratization [Minmintu], a radical left-leaning organization of students, and the United Movement of the Masses for Democracy and Unification [Mintongnyon], an organization of off-stage forces, conspired beforehand and attempted to provoke a popular uprising after paralyzing public order by waging a fierce violent demonstration with the Inchon rally as an opportunity.

The interim result of the investigation, which portrayed the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle by the youths, students, and citizens in Inchon as a violent class revolution and as a riot of a leftist nature modeled after the content of the North's propaganda and agitation against the South, is a fabrication of the DJP intended to suppress the righteous mass movement of students. The interim result, which was announced with no circumstantial facts and logic, is nothing but a repetition of the fabricated propaganda that the puppets employed in suppressing students.

As is known, on 15 May the NKDP said that it was the present government's carefully planned hindering maneuver that ruptured the rally in Inchon held to inaugurate a local chapter for the campaign to collect signatures for constitutional revision. This was stated in a report made public by the party's special committee to investigate the true picture of the Inchon incident, citing as evidence the fact that some 2,000 people disguised as students and citizens appeared at the site of the rally 2 hours before the rally, and systematically hindered the rally until it ended.

The puppets, who had said, until a few days ago, that they would make public the result of an investigation into the Inchon demonstration in early June at the earliest, held a press conference with the so-called interim report fabricated in a hurry, since the announcement of the NKDP report had not only exposed the true picture of the Inchon riot incident, but also gave rise to a public uproar. Such a press conference usually attracts a great number of reporters. However, the press conference held on this day was attended by a few reporters. The interim result of an investigation brought about by the puppets, which failed to attract any attention, is a prelude to further intensified suppression of students.

In the so-called result of an investigation, the puppets babbled that the students' leaflets contained something akin to the content of the North's propaganda and agitation against the South or that the perception of the liberated area and the masses shouted by students contained the strategic meaning of a violent class revolution aimed at overthrowing the current system. This is nothing but a revelation of the puppets' intentions to punish students on sedition charges. By branding students as having attempted to establish a government of the masses and by attempting to punish them on sedition charges, the puppets have laid bare their own antipopular stand.

As for the students who they branded as riot-inciting elements, they are the patriots who have come out into the streets aspiring after national dignity and democracy against the U.S. imperialists' aggression and interference in the internal affairs of their country and against the Chon Tu-hwan ring's dictatorial rule. Struggling against the oppressors within and without is an expression of consciousness of independence that anyone who values national dignity, sovereignty, human rights, and civil rights can have no choice but to cherish.

They had no way of expressing their just will except to come out into the streets and appeal. Is their righteous resistance a riot? It was none other than the lackeys of the DJP who, by slinking into the ranks of the demonstrators, provoked riots. It was none other than the lackeys of the DJP who slunk into the Inchon Citizens' Hall, which was selected as the site for the inauguration of the Inchon chapter of the NKDP's campaign to collect signatures for constitutional revision, and hindered the rally by kicking up dust in a way that drove the people to cancel the meeting. It was also none other than the members of the DJP mobile unit who disguised themselves as students that kicked up dust by shouting such slogans as those calling for the creation of a liberated district or class revolution.

They even went so far as to announce that a policeman who had died in a hospital from no apparent cause was a victim of the students' riot. They needed such a fabrication to justify their suppression of the students.

The interim result of an investigation into the Inchon riot incident announced by the puppet Prosecutor General's Office has been fabricated with a view to intensifying the suppression of students and to dividing and undermining the rank of the youths, students, and people of all walks of life who joined in the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle.

The South Korean people, however, will not allow themselves to be deceived by the puppets' fabricated propaganda to the effect that the students kicked up rackets and caused riots in pursuit of a violent revolution, creation of a liberated district, and line of a class revolution. Such a fabrication will only result in more clearly laying bare the puppets' own dirty and ignominious nature.

The South Korean people are watching with vigilance the injudicious maneuvers of the puppets, which are becoming more reckless with each passing day.

Instead of fabricating deceptive tricks, the Chon Tu-hwan ring should stop suppressing the students immediately and set free the patriotic youths and students whom they have unjustly arrested and imprisoned. Also it should not stand in the way of the mass movement. This is the only way to bring under control the social and political unrest and chaos, which are becoming more acute.

NORTH, SOUTH TO RUN AS TEAMMATES IN WORLD RACE

SK221256 Seoul YONHAP in English 1226 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP) -- The Asian Amateur Athletic Association (AAAA) Thursday decided to include two runners -- a male and a female -- each from South Korea and North Korea among the Asian selection to compete in the first world challenge road race, scheduled for November in Hiroshima, Japan. The decision was made in the 24th executive directors' meeting of the AAAA here presided by AAAA Chairman Seiko Yasuda. It will be the first time for South and North Korean athletes to run as teammates in a single event.

Participating in the 42.195 kilometer marathon, founded by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, will be 12 squads, each from both sexes. The Asian Zone will be represented by the Japanese team and the Asian selection.

The Asian female team comprises Xiao Hongyan from China, Yuko Gordon from Hong Kong, Choe Un-chu from South Korea, Asha Agarwal from India. W. Sombay from Indonesia and an unnamed North Korean, while the male squad involves China's Zing Zhenglang, South Korea's Kim Chong-yun, India's Vinod Kumar, Malaysia's G. Krishnan and an unnamed North Korean.

The AAAA also decided to open the seventh Asian Championship in July 1987 in Singapore and the first Asian Junior Championship in December of this year in Jakarta. The association chose a male high jumper Zhu Jian Hua of China and a female sprinter P.T. Usha of India as Asia's most valuable players.

NORTH ADMITTED TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BODY

SK230021 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 May 86 p 1

[Text] London (YONHAP) -- North Korea was admitted to the London-based International Maritime Organization, a U.N. agency, as of April 16. According to officials Wednesday, North Korea became the 129th member of the body obtaining a two-thirds majority of a mail vote conducted according to a decision made by the general assembly last November.

The membership entitles north Korea to have a permanent resident mission in Britain which has not so far permitted entry to North Koreans. A source at the Korean Embassy fears that the North Koreans will maneuver to use the mission as a base for their political operations in Britain.

LOCAL AUTONOMY COMMITTEE TO VISIT FOREIGN NATIONS

SK230036 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 1

[Text] The research committee on the local autonomy system is going to send factfinding delegations to foreign countries before holding public hearings on a draft plan. A ranking government official told reporters yesterday that the research committee under the office of the prime minister will send delegations to the United States, Japan and West Germany early next month. Each delegation, to be composed of three to four members of the research committee and government officials, will conduct research for two weeks in each country.

The committee was established in March last year. The government had planned to hold public hearings early next month but will postpone them to late June or early July, the official said. The government will finalize the draft of the local autonomy system before August, after considering opinions presented in the public hearings, before the fall regular session of the National Assembly.

During the overseas tour, members of the committee will compare options for the local self-rule with practices in foreign countries, the official said. He said that the government panel has had consultations with its counterpart of the ruling Democratic Justice Party. But he did not reveal the contents of its tentative plan.

Asked if there were any particular reasons for sending the committee members abroad, the official said, "The government thinks it necessary to be careful in finalizing the draft, as the local autonomy system is to be enforced next year after a 25-year hiatus." The government plans to implement the local autonomy system in five "special" cities and nine provinces from the first half of next year.

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS U.S. DEFENSE OFFICIAL

SK221235 Seoul YONHAP in English 1057 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP) -- Defense Minister Yi Ki-paek Thursday received Will H. Tankersley, military executive of the Reserve Forces Policy Board at the office of the U.S. Defense Secretary. In the meeting, Yi said that tension in Northeast Asia has been increasing because of the Soviet Union's recent sudden reinforcement of its far eastern military strength and North Korea's belligerent military maneuvers. He said Tankersley's visit here will give him a good opportunity to understand Korea's security reality. Tankersley is scheduled to leave Korea on Saturday.

SECURITY INCREASED AT JAPANESE, U.S. OFFICES

OW230305 Tokyo KYODO in English 0255 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Seoul, May 23 KYODO -- Seoul City police decided Friday to enforce tighter security at Japanese and U.S. facilities to guard against their seizure by radical students. The instruction to police officers throughout the capital follows the occupation of the U.S. cultural center in the southern port city of Pusan Wednesday by a group of 21 students chanting anti-U.S. slogans. Students may take similar action against Japanese and U.S. facilities in Seoul, according to police.

A Seoul National University student set fire to himself and jumped to his death from the student hall on the school campus earlier this week in protest against "U.S. imperialism." Students are also campaigning against compulsory training at military camps and areas close to the border with North Korea.

ATTACK ON U.S. CULTURAL CENTER 'Disturbing'

SK230109 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Alarming Student Radicalism"]

[Text] It is indeed disturbing to learn that a group of radical students made yet another assault on an American facility Wednesday -- this time, forcibly occupying, though briefly, the U.S. cultural center in the southern port city of Pusan, which had suffered an arson raid by collegians four years ago. Also disheartening was an incident one day earlier in which a Seoul university student set fire to himself during a massive antigovernment rally staged by fellow collegians -- the third student to resort to this horrible means of protest and the second to die as a result in about three weeks. In addition, a few workers have committed self-immolation as a means of expressing their grievances, and there have been police officers who either lost their lives or were severely injured at the scene of violent student rallies.

In the case of the latest raid on the U.S. cultural center in Pusan, the situation was brought under control in about an hour by Korean police units -- fortunately, without casualties. Nonetheless, the incident -- the seventh involving an American government or commercial establishment since 1980 -- was alarming as it took place amid a growing tendency of outright anti-Americanism among students. One notable aspect of the assault was that all of the 21 students involved were from Seoul, whereas previous instances in provincial cities had been committed in the main by local students. This might be seen as a sign of fragmentation in the ranks of student activism or hesitation on the part of provincial students to join forces with the excessive radicalism, spearheaded largely by Seoul activists.

Whatever the actual situation may be, the worsening student radicalism, highlighted by naked anti-Americanism and successive acts of self-immolation, is creating acute concern and anxiety among the people at large. In this context, we cannot but repeat calls upon students -- even if they may fall on deaf ears for the moment -- to realize the plain truth that extreme radicalism or violence is most detrimental to paving the way for democratization, which is supposedly their ultimate goal. Furthermore, it must be noted that committing suicide, however noble the professed cause may be, is an act universally disapproved of in terms of social morality and ethics, as well as by religions. Especially with regard to young people, resorting to killing oneself should by all means be abandoned, because they are the ones who will shoulder the responsibility of the nation tomorrow, not today.

Such a volatile and lamentable situation as the one prevailing in our society nowadays clearly underlines the pressing need for political actors of rival parties to act resolutely in quest of an early settlement of outstanding national issues through compromise, leaving little room for students to behave in an extreme manner.

21 STUDENTS 'FORMALLY' ARRESTED FOR USIS ATTACK

SK230102 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 8

[Text] Pusan (YONHAP) -- All 21 students who stormed into the U.S. Cultural Center here Wednesday were formally arrested last night. Pusan police announced last night that their arrest warrants were issued by Prosecutor Chong Hon-tae of Pusan District Prosecution. The students, all from Seoul, were charged with violating the Law on the Punishment of Violent Acts, interfering special official duties of government officials and damaging properties. None of the students, including seven coeds, were charged with violating the National Security Law.

Police announced that the students' seizure of the U.S. facilities was master-minded by four leading radical students who are now wanted by police on suspicion of having agitated various campus demonstrations. In particular, Yi Myong-chae, chairman of the "Chamintu," a militant student action body, is being sought by police with regard to the riot in Inchon on May 3. Yi is a senior of Seoul National University.

The students from SNU and Korea University stormed into the U.S., facility after overpowering down two Korean policemen on guard. Their seizure of the U.S. building lasted only for an hour as they were driven out by police forces, who came to the scene upon the request of U.S. authorities.

The four students plotted to attack the U.S. facility in a meeting in Seoul on May 1 before the Inchon incident took place. They rallied colleagues, members of the Chamintu, and the students huddled together more than nine times as well as making advance visits to the facility to draw up a detailed action program, police said. The students plotted to attack the U.S. facility in an attempt to propaganda their anti-American lien by attracting the social concern, police said. Earlier, they had planned simultaneous attacks on the U.S. cultural centers in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu and Kwangju. But, they finally chose Pusan facility since it is well known both at home and abroad for an arson case in 1982.

Police also said that the students travelled here aboard on express bus Tuesday and prepared attacking materials with goods they bought at the Kukche market. The fund for the attack was supplied by Mun Ki-tong, a junior of SNU. He offered 230,000 won, which was key money for his rental house.

PAPER BIPARTISAN APPROACH TOWARD JSP VISIT URGED

SK230033 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 May 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Bipartisan Diplomacy"]

[Text] Quite a ripple has been caused by the proposed visit of the head of the Japan Socialist Party. He was slated to come here at the invitation of the New Korea Democratic Party later this month. The government is refusing to grant a visa to the Japanese persona non grata.

The Japanese Socialist leader, Masashi Ishibashi, is known for his stand against the Seoul government and in favor of North Korea. He is largely responsible for the continued policy of rejecting Seoul and favoring Pyongyang despite the new line of the JSP veering away from the old and rigid persuasion of Marxism-Leninism.

We were particularly annoyed by his meddlesome and arrogant posture expressed in his earlier remarks to the effect that he would pay a visit to Korea on the assumption that it would help in the democratization and unification of Korea.

The subservient character of his party was laid bare last year when his secretary general said upon returning from a trip to North Korea that the JSP would start an exchange with South Korea "With the consent of Kim Il-song," the North Korean dictator.

The fervor and clamor with which the opposition NKDP was to bring the Japanese Socialist leader here seems to represent not so much its interest in promoting an open-door policy as its desire for advancing its propaganda campaign and partisan cause of embarrassing the Seoul government.

We do not see much wisdom in having the Japanese opposition politician visit us at this time with few positive indications of a significant policy shift by the JSP in favor of Seoul. It is unfitting that the NKDP should embroil our political parties in a futile squabble over the visit of an unfriendly foreign politician.

At the root of the rather indecent controversy is the painful lack of a bipartisan approach to foreign policy on the part of our political parties. So far our parties have worked together very smoothly as far as matters of vital national security and trade were concerned.

The New Korea Democrats could and should have displayed a similarly cooperative and affirmative attitude in planning the invitation of Ishibashi. Prior consultation with the government party and the Foreign Ministry could have produced a workable accord on the specific procedures and timing of such a diplomatic affair. It is an open secret that political parties of Japan cooperate with each other closely, irrespective of their differing ideological and party lines on domestic issues, if and when their national interests are at stake in relations with other countries. This bipartisan approach is to be desired most in a divided nation like Korea, faced with manifold internal and external challenges. Our political parties ought to join hands with an open mind to forge a consensus and bipartisan strategy in addressing foreign policy issues to promote shared national interests.

UNIVERSITY TRYS TO SAVE STUDENTS FACING DRAFT

SK230030 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 May 86 p 8

[Text] Korea University yesterday initiated consultations with conscription authorities over the way to save 343 sophomores who boycotted the mandatory week-long training at military camps from being drafted to the Armed Forces. Under law, students who do not receive the training will be denied privileges accorded to students and will immediately be drafted to the military.

A Ministry of Education official said the university is making contacts with conscription officials to seek special considerations for the students who refused to enter the camps as the deadline fell Tuesday. They are part of the 3,392 male sophomores of the university who were supposed to undergo the training from last Monday. The other students responded to the call and attended the camps. The ministry official said the special considerations may include the offering of another chance to the students to enter the camps.

The students boycotted the training as part of their current antigovernment rallies and demonstrations. "We hope the students will be allowed to enter the camps during the summer vacation period," the official observed. He added that at least 150 students now are willing to go to the camps.

NKDP CONDEMNED POLICE ACTION AGAINST MUN IK-HWAN

SK220950 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 22 May 86 p 7

[Text] On 22 May, the NKDP issued a statement calling for the immediate release of Reverend Mun Ik-hwan, chairman of the United Masses Movement for Democratization and Unification [Mintongnyon]. In the statement, the NKDP said: The attempt by police to take Reverend Mun, chairman of the Mintongnyon, into custody is not only a plot to liquidate the Mintongnyon, but also an unambiguous act of suppression against all the conscientious force in the country that aspire for democratization.

NKDP URGES GOVERNMENT TO END 'MCCARTHYISTIC PLOT'

SK221220 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 22 May 86 p 1

[Text] A plenary meeting of the NKDP held on 22 May adopted a letter of resolution in connection with the recent self-immolation of students and workers. In the letter of resolution, the NKDP said: We call on the present regime to immediately bring to an end its McCarthyistic plot to brand all students, workers, religious personages, intellectuals, and other democratic forces calling for democratization as leftist pro-communist elements and, instead, open its eyes to the reality that its own undemocratic nature is largely responsible for their radical ideology and clearly accept our call for democratization and constitutional revision.

In the letter of resolution, the NKDP also said: We regard today's circumstances, in which the number of people committing suicide by setting themselves on fire in protest against the present regime's ruthless suppression is rising, as the biggest crisis facing the nation since the establishment of the Republic.

The plenary meeting also decided to dissociate itself from the Korean-Japanese parliamentarian association should the government refuse to issue a visa for JSP Chairman Ishibashi's visit to Korea, as decided by the Cabinet.

In the letter of resolution, the NKDP plenary meeting asserted: The government's act of refusing to issue a visa, something that will provoke derision in the international arena, will eventually undermine national dignity and is not in the interest of the nation. Its refusal to issue a visa lays bare the deceptive nature of the government's touting about open diplomacy and bipartisan diplomacy. We urge the present regime, which is bent on prolonging its stay in power through monopolized diplomacy, to stop cheating the people and democratize diplomacy.

The NKDP also pledged that it will struggle in order to have Chairman Ishibashi's scheduled visit to Korea realized by making every possible effort and using all possible means.

KIM TAE-CHUNG FACTION SEEKS PROGRESSIVE POLICY

SK230055 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 1

[Text] Lawmakers of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party following Kim Tae-chung seek to revise the party platform and policies based on conservatism in bid to add "progressive ideologies." They demanded the revision in a caucus yesterday, claiming that the party "should build a foundation to accommodate progressive ideologies as a party of the people."

The plan is interpreted as an attempt to embrace dissident forces and students with which the NDP is now at odds following their wild demonstrations critical of the government, the NDP, and the United States. Rep. Sin Ki-ha demanded in the caucus that the party should positively reflect opinions of the students chanting anti-NDP slogans on party policies. He also called for a sweeping reform in the administrative system of the party, which he claimed is inefficient.

Kim's faction is one of the two largest intra-party groups in the NDP rivaling the group led by Kim Yong-sam and party president Yi Min-u.

Sin further asked party leaders to hold caucuses twice a month regularly, apparently showing his group's attempt to make the lawmakers' conference the primary forum to formulate party policies. "Policies should be made in an upward movement from the caucus to the Executive Council," he said.

Rep. Kim Tok-su blamed party leaders for no clear result of the past one year's struggle to solve the amnesty issue involving Kim Tae-chung and others, and labor problems.

Before the caucus, the followers of Kim Tae-chung, called the Tonggyo-dong faction," held a strategic meeting in the presence of their leader. In the meeting, they resolved that the NDP should not agree to convening a special National Assembly in June unless the amnesty for Kim and others is granted and political prisoners are released. Kim told his followers, "The NDP fought well for the general principle of democratization, but its struggle for practical matters such as the amnesty of democratic figures and the problem of students and workers was not up to the mark." "The NDP has to accomodate the claims of students and workers with concern and compassion" he said.

YI MIN-U VOICES HOPES FOR EARLY MEETING WITH CHON

SK230112 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 4

[From the "Press Pocket" Column]

[Text] Los Angeles (YONHAP) -- New Korea Democratic Party President Yi Min-u returns to Seoul today after a 12-day U.S. tour which he used as an opportunity to reaffirm the opposition resolution to revise the Constitution for a direct presidential election system. Meeting with reporters at the Hyatt Hotel here Wednesday, Yi said that he expected he could hold talks with President Chon Tu-hwan shortly after he returns home. "I think a meeting with President Chon will be made soon, as he suggested to do so in a Chongwadae conference of the heads of three major political parties. I hope the meeting will hear frank discussion on the overall political situation in the country," Yi said.

He went on that he would not give up dialogue with the ruling camp concerning the constitutional revision and the local autonomy system. "We will figure out the true intention of the ruling party through the dialogue and will work out our policy according to what we find," he said.

Asked to comment on the reported possibility of his running for the presidency, Yi flatly said that he had never spoken or dreamed of becoming a presidential candidate.

NKDP DEFECTORS TO MEET ON FOUNDING NEW PARTY

SK230057 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 May 86 p 1

[Text] The "New Conservative Club [NCC]," composed of 12 defectors from the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party will hold a meeting today to initiate the founding of the political party. An NCC spokesman said yesterday that the projected party will be named "People's Democratic Party" (Minjung-minju-Dang). The inaugural convention is scheduled to be held on May 30 at the Ambassador Hotel. The NCC members had left the major opposition party late last year, denouncing leaders of the NDP. It favors constitutional amendment to provide for a Cabinet system.

NGUON NHEL ATTENDS PHNOM PENH MEETING

BK210912 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 18 May at the Olympic stadium, the Phnom Penh Party Committee and People's Revolutionary Committee organized a solemn ceremony to welcome back workers of the fifth phase who were returning from worksites along the Cambodian-Thai border after successfully finishing their work.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Nguon Nhel, alternate Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the municipal party committee, highly appreciated the brilliant achievements of the workers who enthusiastically carried out their national defense tasks on worksites along the Cambodian-Thai border. The comrade added that in the position of winners and as tireless combatants braving all difficulties, the Phnom Penh workers have increased their right to be masters and volunteered to carry out duties and brave all kinds of difficulties, even death, and have fulfilled 100 percent of the party's requests. The comrade called on the meeting to unite as one, particularly foster unity among workers and people in the municipality, and strengthen and expand the Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos solidarity bonds to contribute to defending Phnom Penh and to every task set by the party's fifth congress to build a prosperous Cambodian fatherland.

OFFICIALS ATTEND EMULATION MEETING IN KRATIE

BK210806 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] On the morning of 17 May, at the theater hall in Kratie Province, a meeting was held to sum up emulation achievements of the fourth region in 1985 and sign a pledge to emulate in 1986. Attending the meeting were Comrade Sar Not, deputy minister of the office of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Central Emulation Movement; Comrade Nhem Heng, secretary of the Kratie Provisional party committee; delegates from the fourth region, which includes Kratie, Preah Vihear, Stung Treng, Ratanakiri, and Mondolkiri Provinces; and cadres and personnel from the provincial authorities.

For a whole day, members of the meeting attentively listened to addresses by various provincial delegates and reports summing up achievements of the fourth region outlining efforts of cadres, personnel, Armed Forces, and people in the five provinces of the fourth region, who have advanced the emulation movement on 1985 and achieved fine results in every field. Through the implementation of the emulation movement, Kratie Province was awarded the winner's banner of the Council of Ministers for progress in every field and production. Five vanguard districts and 17 communes were outstanding in the fourth region.

Closing the meeting, Comrade Sar Not highly appreciated the achievements and exploits of all the provinces in 1985. He also pointed out a number of good experiences for the benefit of the meeting. The comrade called on members of the meeting to pay attention to vigorously advancing the three strategic goals and at the same time striving to increase rainy-season production and score high results in the economic front, in particular in reafforestation. Furthermore, we should strive to build real revolutionary forces in every field and ensure both quality and quantity from the provincial level down to solidarity production groups.

PAPER HAILS DECISION TO WITHDRAW MORE SRV TROOPS

BK221428 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 22 May 86

[Kangtoap PADEVOAT editorial: "A Decision Based on the Stand of Victory and Strength of the Cambodian Revolution"]

[Text] In the very near future, implementing the agreement between the governments of the PRK and SRV, another contingent of the Vietnam volunteer army will be pulled out of Cambodia. This troop withdrawal is the fifth annual troop withdrawal called for by the all-round development achieved by our Cambodian people in the past more than 7 years. The decision to continue partial withdrawal of the Vietnam Volunteer Army from Cambodia this year is certainly a most correct decision based on the stand of victory and strength of our Cambodian revolution. Over the past more than 7 years, thanks to the correct and talented leadership of the KPRP, the Cambodian people have advanced from one victory to another, steadily consolidating and expanding our Cambodian revolutionary forces. The enemies have suffered increasingly serious setbacks and are heading toward total collapse.

As a result of the strategic defeat of the enemies in the 1984-85 dry season, their ranks have been broken up, their forces deteriorated, and their men demoralized; they have been rendered unable to rear their head again. All 16 major positions along the Cambodian-Thai border lost last year are firmly controlled and occupied by our Revolutionary Army in cooperation with the friendly Vietnamese Volunteer Army. Moreover, our people throughout the country who nurture a simmering hatred for the criminal Pol Pot gang and its accomplices have enthusiastically participated in the campaign to build up the border defense line, performing a most wonderful feat in the national defense labor movement. This has enabled us to be in full control of the entire stretch of the Cambodian-Thai border, erecting a great obstacle to block all enemy attempts to infiltrate across the border from Thailand for sabotage and destructive activities against the peaceful life of our people.

As for the enemy remnants who survived the punishment of our forces and who are striving painstakingly to survive in the interior of our country, they have been hunted down and destroyed little by little by our Armed Forces and militiamen who are gradually strengthening themselves and cooperating closely with the local people. Those who escaped punishment have experienced many difficulties because of shortage of food and medicine and illnesses contracted from their existence in the jungles. They are demoralized and their ranks are torn by infighting. Their factions are hostile to each other and each faction experiences power struggles and quarrels. The number of the awakened persons who broke rank with the enemy and returned to the fold has also increased steadily. Our villages and communes have received the close attention of the party and have been gradually built up and consolidated. The revolutionary movement of the people throughout the country has gained great momentum and has spread far and wide in the field of production and in national defense as well as in the efforts to build the true revolutionary forces.

This partial withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops has once again displayed our goodwill in the search for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. This gesture reelects the correct observance of the bilateral agreement between the Cambodian and Vietnamese Governments regarding the annual partial withdrawals of the Vietnam Volunteer Army until the withdrawal is completed in 1990.

We take this opportunity to recall that if these troop withdrawals are exploited for the purpose of undermining peace and security in Cambodia, the Governments of the PRK and SRV will consult with each other in order to work out appropriate measures.

Soon, a contingent of Vietnamese volunteers who are all the great benefactors of the Cambodian people and revolution will go home and leave the land of Angkor where they and their comrades-in-arms have shed sweat and blood to save Cambodia from the destruction meted out by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. We will say goodbye to these rare friends with the heaviest of hearts and untold gratitude. Your achievements, examples of heroism, and generous deeds will be stamped forever in the hearts of our people. We clearly understand that this feeling will help to further strengthen the bonds of special friendship and solidarity between the Cambodian and Vietnamese nations.

Our Cambodian Army and people as a whole pledge to continue militant cooperation and solidarity with the remaining friendly army contingents that continue to fulfill their internationalist duty in our country against the common enemies. At the same time, we pledge to further heighten the determination to help ourselves, advancing on our own feet in ensuring the cause of national defense and reconstruction. We express sincere best wishes to the departing best sons of Uncle Ho's fatherland who have just concluded their efficacious proletarian internationalist mission on the land of Angkor. May you and your families enjoy happiness, prosperity, good health, and success in all your new duties entrusted by the party and people.

Cambodia and Vietnam will coexist forever in an immortal solidarity and will assist each other to bring the correct struggle of the two peoples toward final victory.

REBEL RADIO QUESTIONS SRV TROOP PULLOUT PROMISE

BK210246 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 May 86

[Station commentary: "The Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors' Deceptive Propaganda About Their Total Troop Withdrawal From Cambodia by 1990 Was Laid Bare"]

[Text] On 16 May, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Tran Guynh told the press in Stockholm during his visit to Sweden that if need be Vietnamese troops would continue to stay in Cambodia beyond 1990. Lately, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been sweet-talking about their so-called troop withdrawal from Cambodia by 1990 almost constantly. They have given assurances that, even without a political solution to the Cambodian problem, the plan to withdraw Vietnamese troops from Cambodia by 1990 remains unchanged. On 21 August 1985, at a press conference in Jakarta, Indonesia, Hanoi's foreign minister, Nguyen Co Thach, again reiterated that assurance.

This move of the Hanoi authorities is intended to fool the world into believing that Vietnam will certainly withdraw its aggressive forces by 1990 so that the world community will stop bringing pressure to bear on Vietnam and stop demanding that it withdraw its aggressive troops from Cambodia in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations.

Now, Tran Quynh's remarks in Stockholm as quoted above have automatically exposed the truth that Hanoi has no sincere desire to withdraw troops from Cambodia either by 1990 or by any year. The Hanoi authorities' genuine and lasting intention is to occupy Cambodia forever. This is the ultimate truth. Hanoi's signing of a military cooperation pact with the Soviet Union on 3 November 1978 and its subsequent sending of hundreds of thousands of its troops to invade and occupy Democratic Kampuchea -- an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned state and a full-fledged member of the United Nations -- at the end of 1978, most arrogantly and brutally violating the principles of international law and practice and the UN Charter, were aimed at swallowing up Cambodia and turning it into part of Vietnam according to the Indochinese federation strategy.

This objective has been alive for years -- that is since the birth of the late Ho Chi Minh's Indochinese Communist Party. Therefore, without the all-round pressure -- military, economic, political, and diplomatic -- to bring unbearable difficulties on it, Vietnam will never withdraw from Cambodia; it will annex Cambodia forever, just as it swallowed Kampuchea Kraom and the Champa Kingdom in the 17th century.

Moreover, the fact that Hanoi has once and again rejected various proposals for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem, particularly the 8-point proposal recently advanced by the CGDK, has clearly emphasized the above-mentioned expansionist and aggressive stand of the Vietnamese enemy. The world, therefore, clearly sees that it cannot remain idle and wait for Vietnam to withdraw troops from Cambodia by 1990. The world should deem it necessary to continue even more vigorously to bring all-round pressure to bear on the Hanoi authorities and to continue even more enthusiastically to provide support and assistance to the Cambodian people and the CGDK, enabling them to fight the Vietnamese aggressors on the battlefield with greater vigor until the Hanoi authorities can no longer bear the difficulties and are forced to give up their aggressive ambition and to withdraw all their aggressive troops unconditionally from Cambodia, allowing the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny in accordance with the successive UN resolutions.

DK SPOKESMAN REPORTS SRV REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE

BK230127 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 22 May 86

[21 May statement by DK National Defense Spokesman]

[Text] In early May, the Vietnamese successively sent in 80 trucks of reinforcement troops, 40 trucks at a time, and tanks and artillery from Tay Ninh along Route 22 to Krek [Kompong Cham Province] to deploy them from (? Srok Poun) and along Route 73 in Chhuk to Kroch Chhma District seat. Another part of this reinforcement was deployed along Route 75 from Preah Theat, (? Slap Te), Kompong Reang, and Chhlong District seat. Along with this, 600 Vietnamese families were sent to settle along the Mekong River bank in Chhlong District [Kratie Province] and Kroch Chhma District [Kompong Cham Province].

Also in early May, the Vietnamese dispatched 50 trucks of reinforcement troops, together with tanks and artillery, from Song Be along Route 13 to Snuol to be deployed in Kratie provincial seat and along the Mekong River bank down to Chhlong District. Hundreds of Vietnamese families have settled along the Mekong River in Kratie Province.

This lays bare the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors' lie on the so-called troop withdrawal. This is just a farce to deceive and dupe the world once more. The world has been well aware of the deceitful and tricky nature of the Vietnamese aggressors on the Cambodian issue for the past more than 7 years. The world is sick and tired of the same lies by the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors and is increasing its opposition and condemnation and vigorously demanding that the Vietnamese withdraw all their aggressor forces from Cambodia as prescribed by resolutions of the past 7 sessions of the UN General Assembly to end the Cambodian people's great suffering and destruction caused by the Le Duan Vietnamese aggression. If the Le Duan Vietnamese really want to resolve the Cambodian issue and build the Vietnamese economy, they should pull out their aggressor forces from Cambodia.

[Dated] 21 May 1986.

GEN ATHIT ON BENEFITS OF U.S.-THAI EXERCISE

BK210924 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 20 May 86

[Undated Statement by Supreme Commander and Army Commander in Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek on the Joint U.S.-THAI Military Exercise at Sattahip Naval Base in Chon Buri Province -- recorded]

[Text] The current exercise is codenamed "Logex 29" and is a joint logistics supply exercise between Thailand and the United States. As you know, an efficient logistics system depends on good coordination. We have a large number of logistics officials coming from various departments of the three armed services. Training is therefore needed to get them familiar with each other's work. Also, for the first time, we have introduced officials from the state enterprises. State enterprise officials play an important role in logistics for the armed forces as well. The joint training will enable them to become familiar with military operations and logistics using the resources we have in our country. Moreover, the joint exercise with the United States will also enable Thai officials to become familiar with the general practice concerning logistics supply. As we are receiving assistance from the United States, we will have to follow certain procedures regarding logistics supply, including filling out forms as well as adopting methods of transportation. The exercise will enable Thai officials to be familiar with the procedures to follow.

MILITARY OFFICIAL ON LULL IN CAMBODIAN FIGHTING

BK211245 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] The situation in areas bordering neighboring countries turned out to be contrary to what had been expected during this dry season, especially the situation at the Thai-Cambodian border where only a small number of incidents were reported. Unlike in previous years, the situation this year was less violent both at the Thai-Cambodian border areas and in fighting inside Cambodia. From the beginning of the dry season until the beginning of the rainy season in May, no major military operations were launched by Vietnam, unlike previous years.

Concerning this, Maj Gen Sihadet Bunnak, deputy director of the Supreme Command Information Office, attributed it to the fact that forces of Democratic Kampuchea carried out attacks and inflicted heavy losses on Vietnam in areas deep inside Cambodia, forcing Vietnam to pull its forces from the border to reinforce the interior of the country. Moreover, the guerrilla tactic adopted by DK forces made it impossible for Vietnam to wipe them out using large-scale operations. Vietnam also needs its regular forces to control Cambodian settlers sent to new economic areas.

PARTY LEADER WELCOMES REMARKS ON PREMIER SELECTION

BK210357 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 May 86 p 2

[Excerpts] Chat Thai Leader Maj Gen Praman Adireksan yesterday welcomed Democrat leader Phichai Rattakun's statement that the leader of a political party which emerges the biggest from the general election should be made prime minister. But he said it is now still premature to negotiate an alliance among parties and rather it is now the time of stiff competition.

Praman told THE NATION that the proposal was in fact initiated by him. He said he floated the idea a while ago in talks with Phichai. Phichai said then that he would consider the proposal, according to Praman. The Democrat leader said over the weekend that the political party which sweeps more than half of the House seats or 174 should have its leader made prime minister. In case that none manages to capture the majority House seats, two largest parties should form a coalition government and let the leader of the larger to take over as prime minister if their combined MPs exceed 174, according to Phichai. Praman said it was unlikely that a single party would capture the majority seats.

Praman's son, former Sara Buri MP Pongphon Adireksan, commented that Phichai made the statement when it appeared that the party would emerge the biggest from the upcoming nationwide polls, rightly or wrongly. However, he said he agreed with the principles. He also said that Pichai may feel that if Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon ran in the general election in the South under the banner of the Democrat Party, it could affect the chances of the party's candidates in the capital. Prem's candidacy in the South, probably in Songkhla, is believed to be a boost to the southern-based Democrats. The party has high hopes that it will sweep the House seats for the capital in the July 27's general election, though.

CONCERN OVER 'COURTESY CALLS' ON PREM VOICED

BK211156 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 21 May 86 p 5

[Editorial: "The Fashion of Marching To See the Boss"]

[Text] Following the dissolution of Parliament, and with uncertainty still prevailing, the people must pay more attention to current developments beyond the upcoming general election scheduled for 27 July, the day on which the people will have the opportunity to exercise their voting right to elect the right kind of representatives....

To call on the country's "big shot" has now become the daily fashion, and has drawn much public attention. The local press reports almost every day on army officers from various units marching to pay respect to their big boss. However, it should be noted that not even one air force or navy officer has ever participated in such an acitivity. Generally speaking, subordinates will always respect a boss that they admire, but it is very unusual and suspicious if they come in big groups to pay courtesy calls on their superior.

A sense of gratitude is understandable and should not trigger any suspicion. In particular, nobody should cast any doubt over the frequent calls on Prime Minister General Prem by army officers. Gen Prem served in the Army for a long time and is admired by the people in military circles. However, we cannot figure out why the permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry has to get involved in the affair. It is reported that he will soon lead the governors of the 73 provinces to pay a courtesy call on Gen Prem. This issue is getting out of control. The Interior Ministry is the most important agency in the country's politics because it is in charge of organizing the elections. Officials of this ministry must be neutral and should refrain from any action which could either benefit or harm the candidates who will run in the upcoming poll. To call on the prime minister at this moment could easily lead to unfavorable consequence should a political party exploit it.

We therefore appeal to the Interior Ministry's officials to think carefully before doing such a thing. Why don't the provincial governors call on the prime minister after the general election since everybody will still be alive?

SITTHI DEFENDS SOCIAL ACTION PARTY RECORD

BK210319 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 May 86 p 4

[Text] Although the Social Action Party's image has been marred by the rice price debacle, SAP Leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila thinks that the party's overall performance in Government has been a good and broad one. The rice issue, he said, has been the focus of public attention, but the party had made other achievements in the fields of agriculture, commerce and foreign affairs. "In fact, SAP has many achievements," ACM Sitthi said.

The tambon council funds is one area in which the SAP has contributed to the growth of democracy, he said. "This is to set the roots of democracy for the people whereby they can choose for themselves for the benefit of society. The benefit is to create jobs for the people," ACM Sitthi said. In the economic field, there are many areas where the SAP has helped solve problems, particularly with regard to the export of Thai products, he said.

Through the Foreign Ministry, the SAP has been able to get the Japanese Government to reduce import taxes on boneless chicken from 18 to 14 per cent, he said. For tapioca, South Korea has agreed to drop its import tax from 20 to seven per cent.

SAP ministers have also combined to help resolve the U.S. textile embargo issue which threatened to jeopardise tens of thousands of jobs. The Japanese, he said, have agreed to consider buying Thai maize, the Chinese Government now wants to buy one million tons of maize this year and the South Koreans have increased their purchase from 80,000 to 200,000 tons. Also, China has purchased 200,000 tons of rice from Thailand this year. A Chinese delegation, he said, is also scheduled to arrive to buy more rice. Sugar and tapioca exports are also increasing, he said. ACM Sitthi said that Thailand should not forget what the SAP has achieved through Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Chaisiri Ruangkanchanaset, who had devoted time and money in boosting Thai sports as evidenced by the results of the SEA [Southeast Asia] Games.

"We are putting together a booklet showing what achievements the party has made. All of you in the Press have been focussing on the rice issue" vis-a-vis the party, which is "our weakest point," he said. The Foreign Minister said that the SAP hopes to give tourism a bigger boost and has already started this by getting Malaysia to waive its 500 baht land travel tax.

AL-QADHDHAFI ENVOY MET BY NGUYEN CO THACH

BK221530 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Lawyer Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and Foreign minister and special envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the glorious 9 January revolution, of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, arrived in Hanoi on the afternoon of 22 May for an official friendship visit to our country.

Welcoming special envoy lawyer Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur and some accompanying officers of the Libyan Army were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach; assistant to the Foreign Minister, Nguyen Duy Lien; Major General Vu Xuan Vinh; the chief of the Foreign Liaison Department of the Defense Ministry, and some high-ranking cadres of the Foreign Ministry. Secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Vietnam Abd al-Salim, Ali Arabi Munir was on hand to welcome the special envoy. On the evening of 22 May, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach hosted a cordial reception for special envoy Lawyer Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur and his suite.

UN ENVOY ON CAMBODIAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

OW220852 Hanoi VNA in English 0729 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 22 -- Ambassador Bui Xuan Nhat, acting head of the Vietnamese permanent Mission to the United Nations, described a report on "human rights in Kampuchea" made by the UN Commission on Human Rights at a recent debate as a gross distortion of the present realities in Kampuchea. He firmly rejected any resolutions of the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) about the "situation of human rights in Kampuchea".

Speaking as an observer at a May 19 debate of the ECOSOC, Bui Xuan Nhat said it is necessary to strongly condemn the terrorist acts of the Pretoria regime against its neighbouring countries, the aggressive moves of the Israeli expansionists against Arab nations, the undeclared war against Nicaragua, and the recent attacks against Libya. He denounced the U.S. as using the human rights issue for the political purpose of causing instability in the countries obedient to its orders.

USSR'S RYABOV RECEIVES TRAN QUYNH 19 MAY

OW201815 Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 20 -- Y. P. Ryabov, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, received in Moscow Monday Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam. The two sides discussed several questions relating to economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

LEADERS CONGRATULATE SFRY LEADERS ON ELECTION

OW201810 Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 20 -- President of the State Council Truong Chinh and Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho today sent separate messages of congratulations to Slobodan Milošević and Ivo Vranić on their elections respectively as president of the collective Presidency and president of the Federal Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Also today, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong extended his warm congratulations to Branko Mikulic on his appointment as president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia. In their congratulatory messages, the Vietnamese leaders wished the friendship between Vietnam and Yugoslavia further development and Yugoslavia's new leaders successes in their noble missions. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent a congratulatory message to his Yugoslav counterpart, Raif Dizdarevic, on his re-appointment as minister of foreign affairs.

U.S.-ASEAN TROUBLED RELATIONS DISCUSSED

BK201038 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 19 May 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Many contradictions have recently emerged in the relations between the ASEAN countries and the United States. First of all, the ASEAN countries do not share the United States' view as to the threat to peace, stability, and cooperation in this region. The United States has played the trump card of a Soviet and Vietnamese threat to press ASEAN to engage in an arms race, to implement a policy of confrontation against socialist countries and to continually cause tension in this region. However, ASEAN expresses its concern over the continued use of military bases in the Philippines by the United States and over the plan to establish a strategic arms stockpile in Thailand to intensify the U.S. military presence in Southeast Asia, and considers them as obstacles to the implementation of the Zone of Peace, Freedom, and Neutrality program and the move toward establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, while the United States has concentrated its attention on Vietnam and the Soviet Union, ASEAN is profoundly concerned with Chinese intentions. U.S. Southeast Asian experts admit that some ASEAN countries do not agree with the arming of China by the United States. They consider China as a latent threat to ASEAN security. Malaysia has warned that the equipment and military technology provided by the United States to China might be used to cause instability in the region. Indonesia Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja clearly pointed out: There is no threat from Vietnam and the Soviet Union. Indonesia does not agree with Thailand in viewing Vietnam as a threat.

ASEAN's great interest in economic development has not been taken into consideration by the United States. The economic situation in this group of countries during 1985 and the first few months of 1986 has not been bright, even though they have adopted economic austerity policies, cancelled some projects, and reduced budgets. All countries are faced with declining production in many sectors, slumping exports, inflation, and increased unemployment, while the foreign debt of each country accounts for approximately 22 percent of export revenues.

These problems have become even more acute at a time when the prices of raw materials and oil are declining rapidly. The U.S. Farm Act has greatly affected Thai agricultural exports and may cost Bangkok a loss of at least 1.5 million kilos in rice sales, more than one quarter of the world rice market. Malaysia has complained that the United States has focused too much on oil exploration and made little investment in non-mineral oils or (?oil export technology). The Singapore prime minister clearly pointed out that the United States has belittled its economic relations with ASEAN, has dumped its tin on the world market decreasing the price of this metal, and has threatened to give preferential trading to some developing countries and to insist on the renegotiation of the textile agreement with ASEAN on stricter conditions.

Consequently, following the Bali conference, the ASEAN countries have become all the more disappointed that both Reagan and Shultz have not been supporting nor understood how the decrease in oil prices has impacted on the economy and political stability of ASEAN countries. Indonesia requested the United States alleviate its trade restrictions. Manila expected the United States to take action to accelerate trade with the Philippines and expand the market for that country's exports. The Malaysian delegate said: The United States should have a policy to help ASEAN's economy rather than providing weapons and increasing military aid.

Singapore Foreign Minister Dhanabalan warned that the U.S.-ASEAN relations might be deadlocked if the United States broadly carried out its protectionist measures. ASEAN countries are also reluctant to cooperate with the United States regarding the so-called fight against international terrorism. After listening to the explanation by Reagan and Shultz of the U.S. attack on Libya, Mokhtar said: Indonesia opposing a country is a different story. Communism has never come to our countries on big ships. Large bases and big warships are the symbol of expansionism.

NHAN DAN MARKS CAMBODIA 'DAY OF NATIONAL HATRED'

OW201734 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 20 -- The genocidal Pol Pot clique which brought the land of Angkors to the brink of extermination could not be considered by any sober-minded man the representative of Kampuchean people, says the daily NHAN DAN marking Kampuchea's Day of National Hatred for the Genocidal Pol Pot Regime (May 20).

By backing and doling up this criminal group, the paper continues, the U.S. imperialists, the Chinese expansionists and other reactionary forces, have overtly intervened in the Kampuchean internal affairs and become the enemy of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. However, the Kampuchea people are determined to follow the way they have chosen, resolutely saying "no" to the comeback of the Pol Pot clique and translating their hatred for the Pol Potists and their masters into actions to firmly defend their revolutionary gains.

Praising the wonderful revival of Kamppuchea, the paper notes that over the past seven years since the collapse of the Pol Pot regime in 1979, the revolutionary administrations from the central to grassroots levels have been established and strengthened. The resounding military victory in the 1984-85 dry season has proved the rapid growth of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Armed Forces, increasing the position and prestige of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The success of the fifth congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea demonstrated the Kampuchean people's determination to rally around the glorious PRPK, gaining more achievements in all fields, gradually managing the work of National defence and construction, and further strengthening the Indochinese strategic alliance.

The great and comprehensive achievements recorded by the Kampuchean people, remarks the paper, reaffirm that the situation in Kampuchea has become more and more stable, and irreversible.

The development of the Kampuchean revolution and the tireless and constructive efforts made by the PRK together with Laos and Vietnam, in seeking a solution to the outstanding problems in Southeast Asia, have made positive contributions to the common struggle of the people in the region for a Southeast Asia of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, underlines the paper.

FLOODING, WATERLOGGING HITS LANG SON PROVINCE

BK180359 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Heavy rains hit many areas in Lang Son Province on 11 and 12 May, with the amount of rainfall reaching 148-160 mm. Because of the large amount of water accumulated since late April and because of heavy deforestation, heavy rains generated a rush of water downstream, causing flooding and waterlogging of a number of localities.

The three districts of Bac Son, Trang Dingh, and Binh Cia were hit by a flash flood unprecedented in 20 years. According to incomplete statistics, the area of rice, tobacco, and soybeans affected by floods and waterlogging amounts to 20-30 percent of the total sown 5th-month spring crop area. The flash flood has also caused erosion of dozens of hectares of floating rice fields along rivers and streams. More than 800 hectares of rice and corn in Bac Son have been flooded or waterlogged and 200 hectares of the That Khe rice fields have been submerged by floodwaters.

The three districts of Bac Son, Trang Dinh, and Binh Gia have sent cadres down to various villages to motivate the people to quickly clear fallen trees, clean rice, soybean, and corn plants, and apply more fertilizer to rice and subsidiary food crop areas once the floodwaters recede. Bac Son has decided to issue an additional 200 metric tons of fertilizer to various villages to fertilize their rice and subsidiary food crops.

The Lang Son provincial agricultural sector has, in coordination with the three districts affected by flash floods and waterlogging, sent cadres down to each village to determine the flash flood and waterlogging situation, recheck the amount of supplies, seed, fertilizer, and insecticide still in stock, and map out distribution plans. This is to help those cooperatives affected by floods and waterlogging restore production. As for those cooperatives that had large rice and subsidiary food crop areas completely destroyed, the agricultural sector has directed them to make necessary preparations for the summer-fall and 10th-month crop production.

The agricultural sector has also directed the vegetation protection sub-departments and the crop-plant service corporations of these districts to assign cadres to monitor the situation in each cooperative and each crop area in order to be well informed of the development of harmful insects and to quickly prevent and eradicate harmful insects if rice, subsidiary food crops, and industrial crops are to be protected.

AQUINO QUERIED ON NPA, MARCOS, ECONOMY

NC212114 Paris AFP in English 2111 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 21 (AFP) -- President Corazon Aquino said Wednesday the communist insurgency in the Philippines was under control but ruled out a military solution to the rebellion, saying this will be solved with economic recovery.

In an interview aired on state-run television and radio stations here, Mrs. Aquino shrugged off rumors that her cabinet was plagued with rifts, saying she wanted them to be "outspoken" and attributed lapses to their "inexperience."

She dismissed diehard supporters of her deposed predecessor Ferdinand Marcos who have been staging protests "just a minority" who are "usually paid" and who "don't have the same commitment" as the rest of the Filipinos who swept her to power.

She rejected requests by politicians that the 50 framers of a new constitution which she will appoint be allowed to run for public office, saying there were "enough Filipinos" whose "only concern is their country's interest." She said she and her cabinet had narrowed down the list of 1,000 nominees submitted by the people to just 250. The panel is to convene on June 2 and are expected to finish its work three months later, after which an election is scheduled.

On the 17-year communist rebellion, Mrs. Aquino said Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos assured her earlier Wednesday that the military "have the situation under control," adding that she was satisfied with the troops' performance.

The chief executive ruled out a military solution to the 16,000 strong New People's Army (NPA) threat, saying: "we will have to solve the economic problems first and this will contribute to the early restoration of peace and order."

Communists continued to appeal to the poor because of economic problems and "people are really suffering from not enough income," she said.

She said her government's current thrust was on agriculture and industries with low capitalization to promote self-sufficiency and more jobs, and that her cabinet was mulling a 10-billion-peso (487 million-dollar) fund for emergency employment. Some 12.6 percent of the country's 21 million-strong labor force are unemployed, according to government statistics, but independent estimates place the figure at 15-17 percent.

On the Marcos loyalists, Mrs. Aquino said "they still have far to go" and that "until they can come out with a central figure whom they could rally behind, then we should not worry too much about them."

She denied suggestions that the presidential Commission of Good Government, tasked with the recovery of the alleged ill-gotten wealth of the Marcos family and their associates, was vindictive and indiscriminate. The panel, which has gone on a worldwide hunt for the Marcos fortune, has also sequestered the assets of 180 private firms here, fuelling controversy and speculation that this was scaring away much-needed foreign and local investments. "We are very concerned that business will not panic...everybody will be given a fair break," Mrs. Aquino said, adding the panel was now doing its work "in a very orderly manner so as not to unduly alarm our people.

Mrs. Aquino put a unique flavor to the interview by inviting four women -- a laundrywoman, a vegetable vendor, a social worker and a shellcraft manufacturer -- in front of the camera to share their problems and insights with her. The women brought up the lack of jobs, the demolition of squatter shanties, lack of medical and housing facilities in urban areas, and stringent government regulations on exports.

Mrs. Aquino said she would visit the insurgency-torn city of Davao in the south and hold office there on Friday to fulfil her campaign pledge to "bring the government closer to the people." She said she was not surprised that even her staunchest supporters were now demanding "results" from her three-month-old administration, saying: "one thing people cannot accuse me of is I did not promise miracles.

AQUINO ARRIVES IN DAVAO, STRESSES DIALOGUE

HK230601 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today stressed the importance of consultation with the people in order to know their problems and thereby help the government outline its major policies. The president made this statement on arrival at the Davao airport this morning. She is scheduled to hold discussions with eight groups representing different sectors of the province on separate meeting. [Aquino recording indistinct]

Aquino's visit to Davao is her first trip outside Manila since assuming the presidency in February. The president has said that she intends to fulfill her campaign promise to put an end to government indifference to rural areas. She is expected to discuss the insurgency problems with local government and military officials.

Tomorrow, the president proceeds to Cebu City where she will address a huge rally. It will be recalled that the president was in Cebu when the civilian revolt aided by the military toppled the Marcos regime.

LAUREL 'NOT AFRAID' OF A NEW ELECTION CALL

HK221327 Hong Kong AFP in English 1312 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 22 (AFP) -- Vice President Salvador Laurel said Thursday he was ready to stake his current post in a new presidential election if a panel which will convene next month to draft a new Philippine Constitution calls for a new poll. "If that is what the Constitutional Commission will come out with and that is what the people will ratify, we will follow the Constitution," Mr Laurel told reporters when asked if he was willing to run in a new election. "We are not afraid to run again," he added.

(Meanwhile, in the southern city of Davao, Arturo Tolentino, Mr Laurel's opponent in the February 7 presidential poll, called the assumption of office of President Corazon Aquino and Mr. Laurel "the greatest political robber of all time."

(Mr. Tolentino said he and former President Ferdinand Marcos were the true winners of the poll. Mr. Marcos was toppled following the controversial election by a civilian-military revolt.)

Mrs. Aquino is due to announce the final 50 members of the Constitutional Commission on Sunday. Members were selected from an initial list of 1,000 people nominated by citizens. The panel will open its session on June 2 and is expected to work for three months.

Mr. Laurel, who is also foreign minister, was also asked if he would run with Mrs. Aquino again if a new presidential election is called. "Whether we will agree to (an Aquino-Laurel ticket) is the least of our problems," he said. "I think that will not be debatable." Mr. Laurel was a leading presidential contender last December when he agreed to stand down from Mrs. Aquino to unify anti-Marcos forces.

(In Davao, Mr. Tolentino warned that if Mrs. Aquino was not careful she would "equal Marcos' mistakes in 20 years" in three months. The situation now was "more unstable" than when she assumed office after Mr. Marcos fled into exile in Hawaii, he added. (One of her mistakes, he said, was the sequestration of the alleged ill-gotten wealth of Mr. Marcos and his close associates, which he described as "essentially confiscation."

(The removal of pro-Marcos local officials, the appointment instead of election of delegates to the Constitutional Commission, and allowing the cabinet to "fight among themselves" were contributing to instability, he warned.)

ENRILE'S MINDANAO TRIP, FUTURE PLANS VIEWED

HK220521 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 21 May 86 pp 6, 9

[By Marites Danguilan-Vitug]

[Text] Juan Ponce Enrile, defense minister, took off for six cities, mostly in Mindanao, last Thursday morning aboard the spacious, well-kept 20-plus seater Fokker plane Cristina.

With his deputy minister for munitions Wilson Gamboa, two generals, his "good friend" Homobono Adaza (the MP who lost his seat in parliament), his public affairs man, his own video crew, a retinue of security officers and men, military assistants, and three journalists, he surveyed the peace and order scene in Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Cotabato, Zamboanga. In each place, he gave press conferences, appearing enthusiastic despite having to answer the same questions. He also addressed the press club of Iloilo and professionals and business executives of Palawan.

The four-day trip ended with an unplanned two-hour visit to Bugsuk island off Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Eduardo Cojuangco's 6,000-hectare coconut farm. It was a trip the defense minister took "to heal wounds in the countryside and listen to the people." He also spoke to the troops in the field, boosting their morale, assuring them of a simplified process of sending them their needs, and promised them the ministry was looking into their salary increases. The pep talk gave more firm assurances. "You will not be oppressed, harassed... Don't be apprehensive because of the human rights investigation... Should anyone be investigated, you will have the assistance of competent lawyers... I'm willing to defend your rights with my life..." Applause from the soldiers.

But it was also a trip wherein Enrile had to face up to questions and doubts about him, and his avowed commitment to civilian supremacy. In a way, the visit confirmed the presence of suspicion and distrust.

"They say you will make a dash for power..." one reporter in Cagayan de Oro said. "There are talks you will create a military junta..." a Davao journalist said as a prelude to his question. Enrile replied, "If there is a military junta, you can be sure the head will be the commander-in-chief, President Aquino."

A Davao citizen attending the peace and order regional council meeting asked about the possibility of a military coup. "Why should I attempt to launch a coup at this late hour?" the defense minister quipped.

Enrile was spared that question in Cotabato and Zamboanga for the concerns were the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and warlord Ali Dimaporo's 1,792 unsurrendered firearms. (Of this number, 714 were directly issued to Dimaporo by the former government; 1,078 were issued to the Civilian Home Defense Forces loyal to him.)

But, in his next stop, Iloilo, the question came up once more. An elderly professional told Enrile in an open forum he "redeemed" himself during the four-day military revolt but there are speculations about his ambitions for the presidency. "I make no apologies to anybody about my 20 years of public service. I don't have to explain to anyone..." Enrile said, after which he stressed the neutral role of the Armed Forces.

The defense minister is beleaguered on several fronts but he says he is not bothered. Many lack or have no confidence in him and instead see him as a threatening figure. He will also be subject to two investigations -- by the human rights committee and the Presidential Commission on Good Government for his alleged hidden wealth. He says he will prove he has not done wrong and will require public apology, at the least, from those who have "assaulted my honor."

It is a disconcerting kind of peace with himself, if indeed it is, that makes him unflappable, unmindful of people's perceptions and impression of him. Reading the newspapers one morning aboard the plane, a daily screamed the headline that the President and Enrile were at odds over the role of Amnesty International [AI] in the probe of human rights violations. On another day, a daily carried a front page story saying AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos backs AI, leaving Enrile in an isolated position.

Enrile merely smiled. He says he does not see the negative press reports as a problem. He is asked, "Will you not seek to correct or clarify these reports?

"I am what I am. I will neither be bad if people speak ill of me nor be better if good things are written about me... I'll not waste my time correcting people's opinion of me. I'll do what I have to do. People approve or disapprove. I do not have to prove anything anymore," he says.

Seeing the journalists unsatisfied at his answers, he gives a list of books which he says will reveal his philosophy: Those authored by Floyd Douglas, the "Rubaiyat" by Omar Khayyam, "Ecclesiastes" from the Bible, and "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" by Thomas Gray.

At times during the trip, Enrile would talk of himself, albeit guardedly. He does not readily share his views on current issues. And he says; "People don't know me. The most difficult thing to study is something simple and quite clear and you're finding out complexities."

He refers us to a recent interview he gave the PACIFIC STARS and STRIPES where in he said, "Let people remember me in whatever way they want to..." And, he also said, "There must be a time to dismount a horse, when the dismounting is good."

Still, as things stand, if reaching out to the provinces and making one's effective presence felt where a race among Cabinet members, Enrile would have the edge. For he has the distinct advantage of having his ministry well organized ahead of the others who are still going through or have just undergone transition periods. Or others may lose or be behind by default.

And he leaves the impression that he is the conduit of the national government to countryside, that he can make things move -- and fast. He is asked questions on a whole range of subjects, from the appointment of Officers-in-charge (OICs) and sequestration -- not directly related to defense -- to the pressing issues of the insurgency, ceasefire and the MNLF.

On matters not under his jurisdiction, he makes the assurance he will convey them to the President or minister in charge. His assistants are quick to take down the complaints and problems.

One sense this man likes being in power, being able to present solutions to problems, is comfortable with the trappings that power brings, and would love to run the country, see his ideas on counterinsurgency, agriculture, local government, economic recovery adopted and not merely being consulted on policy.

He did say, in his talk in Cagayan de Oro, one does not go to a revolution to retire afterwards. And, in one line, referring to the future, he said, "...others can equally lead, if not better, this land"

What is worrisome to others is that Enrile "may be forced" to take the helm should the "soft approach" towards the insurgency of President Aquino fail. Peace and order reports in Mindanao show membership in the New People's Army has not decreased. There have been fewer offensive but the military is not optimistic about a ceasefire.

Region 10 has an estimated NPA membership of 900 armed regulars, 1,800 Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) members, 2,000 militiamen. Brig. Gen. Mariano Adalem, Regional Unified Command [RUC] head, says the CPP-NPA is on the defensive now but will intensify party building, stockpiling of firearms and acceleration of armed guerrilla activities to preoccupy the military forces.

In Region 11, the population directly influenced by the NPA has risen, according to RUC commander Col. Romeo Recina; out of 1,651 baragays, 679 or 41.12 percent are influenced.

In Region 12, the NPA has been said to be "relatively quiet," according to Brig. Gen. Rodrigo Gutang, RUC commander. While there has been a decrease in offensives, with cadres lying low and observing the new government's reconciliation efforts, "it is unlikely they will heed the reconciliation call." Armed strength of the NPA is estimated at 930, MNLF-Bangsa Moro Army (BMA) at 3,600.

In Zamboanga and the rest of Region 9, NPA armed strength is placed at 1,518 (as of the first quarter of 1986). There have been fewer NPA-Connected "violent incidents," 122 for the year's first quarter, compared to 171 in the last part of 1985; this is attributed to the NPA's wait-and-see stance.

In Region 6, armed confrontation between government troops and the CPP-NPA became less intense and less frequent after the February revolt. These picked up, however, during the last two weeks of May.

RUC commander Brig. Gen. Tan Gatu reported that peace initiatives of the new government "may collapse sooner [sentence as published]. Both military and insurgents continue to lunge at each other to gain [the] upper hand."

If the insurgency situation does not improve, will Enrile find this a reason to toughen up and run the show? Opinion is divided. Some think he is a team player supportive of the new government. Others disagree, adding: "Didn't he say 'one does not go to a revolution only to retire.'?"

PIMENTEL REVAMPS LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRY

HK220929 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 May 86 pp 1, 9

[By C. Valmoria Jr]

[Text] Local Governments Minister Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr revamped yesterday the regional offices of the Ministry of Local Government (MLG) and appointed eight new regional directors. He said four veterans in the ministry were retained, while the others were retired or reassigned "for political reasons."

Pimentel said the new setup would streamline field operations to keep them attuned to requirements of local administration under the new government. He also confirmed the 10 Pangasinan officials received fake retention or officer-in-charge [OIC] designation papers which, he said, the ministry has invalidated.

He said the principal suspect, Eduard. Gaabucayan, who is now detained by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), admitted having delivered fake appointments to Jack Soriano, San Carlos; Jesus Perez; Basista; Romy Marcial, San Fabian; Rodolfo Reyes, Mangatarem; Wilfredo Paquiz, Binmaley; Salvador Perez, San Manuel; Oscar Casis, Bolinao; and Cris Mendoza, Lingayen.

Pimentel said some of the victims paid as much as P10,000 and the others gave firearms to the suspect.

The minister said only two of the 76 provinces and subprovinces do not have OICs but that he expected the two officials to be appointed before the end of this month. He said all but four of the 6 cities and about 1,200 of the 1,523 towns are now under OICs.

Pimentel appealed to the public to give the newly designated officials more time to prove their worth as he vowed to fire those who turn out to be unworthy. He said some of the OICs may not have outstanding successes in their fields and a few failed in their bid to get elected to public office, but "this does not mean they cannot do well as public administrators."

"The ministry reorganization was effected smoothly to avoid disruption in delivery of services while pursuing the ministry's objectives for the greater good of the rural folk," Pimentel said. He said the regional directors will be mobilized "to serve as focal points in the processing of nominees for vice mayor and sanggunian OICs in the municipal level."

The regional directors were directed to form multisectoral committees composed of representatives from various political parties and sectoral groups. "We expect them to come up with common lists of nominees who are to be selected as prospective OICs for the local posts of vice mayor and sanggunian bayan members," he said.

Pimentel said the participation of MLG regional offices in screening nominees at the municipal level is aimed at getting interested parties to arrive at a consensus and avoid protests later.

On the alleged forged letter of Vice President Salvador H. Laurel, recommending 16 OICs for various towns in Antique, Pimentel said the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) should look into the forgery. Pimentel said Laurel should find out who among his leaders were responsible in forging his signature on the recommendation.

The new MLG regional directors are: Region V (Bicol) -- Agapito B. Rosales, director, and Orlando Lopez, assistant director; Region VI (Western Visayas) -- Remecio Espiritu and Ramon G. Mosqueda; Region VIII (Eastern Visayas) -- Porfirio Siayngco and Resurrecion Salvatierra; Region IX (Southern Mindanao) -- Abdul Cadiao Ibrahim and Hadji Ahmad Sali.

Promoted to regional director was Jesus I. Ingeniero of Region IV (Southern Tagalog) with Rodolfo Ferraren as assistant director.

Those retained as directors were Tomas Palmarin of Region I (Ilocos), Carlos Baquiran of Region II (Cagayan Valley), Fernando Nazareno of Region III (Central Luzon), and Demosthenes Gumalo of Region VII (Central Visayas).

TRADE MINISTRY RESISTS IMPORT LIBERALIZATION

HK220921 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 21 May 86 p 2

[Text] The government will continue to resist all pressures to totally remove controls on imports because most industries are having extreme difficulties, Trade and Industry Minister Jose S. Concepcion Jr. said.

A delayed and staggered implementation of the import liberalization program is one of the several measures the Ministry of Trade and Industry has taken to encourage investments, he said, noting that it would help shield existing and prospective operations from undue competition from imports.

He told a multi-chamber meeting of foreign businessmen that the government cannot hasten the full implementation of the trade liberalization program because of under utilization of capacity and other problems of local industries. "I will resist all attempts of all sectors to totally allow the liberation of all imports," Concepcion said. "Today many of our industries are operating at 30 percent to 40 percent capacity. They have been bothered by high interest rates in the last three years, and many of them no longer have the capital and are in the intensive care unit."

The country's foreign creditors have expressed impatience over two recent delays in the trade liberalization which had been committed by the Marcos government to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in exchange for financing.

As pledged by the former administration, the program would have been fully implemented by the end of last December. However, its completion has been deferred at least twice with the onset of the economic crisis starting in 1983.

The Aquino government is pressing for a staggered implementation of the program because local industries are not ready to absorb the full impact of unbridled importation. "Only after industries are healthy enough that we shall look at complete trade liberalization," Concepcion said.

He said the gradual implementation is also aimed at enabling the government to review all industry sectors and see their potentials for growth in both the short and long terms.

The review would serve as a springboard for the government in preparing its plan to rationalize the tariff structure. The government has conducted a tariff review program in the past but many loopholes remain and lead to overprotection for some industries.

Tariff protection, in turn, has caused some industries to lose their competitiveness in the world market over the years. In many cases, the tariff structure provides high tariff rates on raw materials and low duties on finished products using those raw materials. "Tariffs are a major component in making local industries uncompetitive," Concepcion said, adding that his ministry is studying possible safeguards against dumping and undervaluation of imports to amply protect local products.

The ministry announced the other day a package of measures intended to facilitate investments. Concepcion said the government has identified as high-priority areas for foreign investments labor-intensive and agro- and region-based industries. The main goal is to eliminate mass poverty and generate employment.

ECONOMIC MINISTER STRESSES DEBT SERVICE DECREASE

HK221139 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 22 (AFP) -- The ravaged Philippine economy will not be able to take off in three years' time unless its foreign creditors agree to lessen its heavy debt service burden, Economic Planning Minister Solita Monsod said Thursday.

The debt service must be reduced by "at least 20-25 percent" this year if the government's revised economic program is to become viable, Mrs Monsod told the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines. She also complained that the government of President Corazon Aquino was not getting enough new loans from foreign bank sources. "All we're getting is sympathy," she said.

The minister, who advocates a policy of "case-to-case disengagement" of the country's debts incurred during the regime of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, admitted her strong views "brought immediate reaction, panic" among Manila's creditors. However, she said it would be a "stupidity" to pay for foreign-funded projects guaranteed by the former administration of Ferdinand Marcos, some of which she said were overpriced.

The "bottom line" was that "the burden of debt is very heavy for us and we won't be able to recover at all," she added.

She said the Philippines would pay 2.2 billion dollars in loan amortizations alone this year, and another 2.2 billion dollars in interest. Her ministry had drafted an economic recovery plan which reflected her views, and President Aquino and her cabinet were now studying it.

Asked to make a projection of the country's economy, which has suffered two consecutive years of decline, Mrs Monsod said, "If the rural reforms take place...we will be able to recover."

"This country has tremendous potential...the real problem is the overhead burden" of the debt, she added.

Mrs Monsod said: "there's no disagreement in the cabinet that we need to have the debt burden lightened." But she said the more conservative ministers who consider her methods as "confrontational" wanted a "conciliatory" approach.

Asked what she would do if the cabinet rejected her ministry's policy study, she said: "we'll address that problem when it comes to that."

'LEGAL DISENGAGEMENT' SOUGHT FROM NUCLEAR DEAL

BK220657 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Presidential spokesman Rene Saguisag, who is currently in the United States, said that he is looking for ways whereby the Philippines can avoid payment of the Westinghouse nuclear power plant deal. At present, the Philippines is paying thousands of dollars daily just in interest alone for the 8 billion dollar contract signed by the previous administration to build a nuclear power plant in Bataan in 1976. The plant has not yet been completed and President Cory Aquino has promised not to operate the plant. Saguisag is in Washington to speak with lawyers representing the Philippines Government, about legal disengagement from the Westinghouse contract.

ROK FOREIGN MINISTER CONDUCTS 3 DAY VISIT

Comments on Arrival

BK200619 Manila PNA in English 0606 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 20 (PNA) -- South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong Tuesday said his government will support the economic recovery program of the Philippines. Yi, a special envoy of South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan, arrived here at 11:10 a.m today [as received] for a three-day official visit.

I have come here to convey my greetings on behalf of the government and people of the Republic of Korea to a great country of a Filipino people, yi told newsmen.

He said the Philippines has earned the great admiration of Korea for the courage of wisdom of the Filipino people in overcoming national difficulties with patience and in a peaceful way. We know how difficult it is to rebuild a nation. We have that experience. We hope we can be of help whenever it is needed by our Philippine friends, he said.

He said Korea will help the government of President Corazon Aquino in whatever we can within the framework of our capacity and capability.

Yi and his five-man party were met at the airport by Vice President and Foreign Minister Salvador H. Laurel and his deputy Jose Ingles.

Yi described the situation in his own country as normal because of further democratization of our country. We have optimistic future in view, he added. He said Korea looks forward to the attainment of Philippine progress, development and prosperity under the leadership of President Corazon Aquino.

Meets With Laurel

HK220435 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 20 May 86 p 22

[By Abrino Aydinan]

[Text] Vice-President and Foreign Affairs Minister Salvador H. Laurel asked for South Korean support for the eight-point proposal of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) for a political settlement of the war in that country.

Laurel who is the current chairman of standing committee of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the so called frontline states to the Indochinese war, conveyed the ASEAN request to visiting South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong.

The war saw Vietnam invading fraternal communist country Kampuchea, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge (Red Khmer) government and installing the Heng Samrin rule. The latest initiative for ending the six year-old war calls for a four-way coalition of the three-party CGDK and the Heng Samrin administration. The CGDK is composed of the Khmer Rouge and two non-communist allies. The initiative is endorsed by the ASEAN.

"They (the South Korean visitors) indicated a positive sign," of response to the ASEAN request, Laurel said.

In his talks with the South Korean delegation at the Executive House yesterday, Laurel also asked for more imports by South Korea to balance a \$130-million trade deficit suffered by the Philippines. Laurel said the Philippine and South Korean panels discussed two or three possible areas in which Seoul "can assist in our economic recovery." For one, the South Koreans promised to buy more Philippine bananas.

Delivers Chon Letter to Aquino

SK201107 Seoul YONHAP in English 1033 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 20 (YONHAP) -- Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong Tuesday delivered to Philippine President Corazon Aquino a personal letter from Korean President Chon Tu-hwan, inviting her to visit Korea. Yi, visiting here as Chon's special envoy, delivered the letter when he paid a courtesy call on Aquino at the Malacanang Palace.

Accepting Chon's invitation, Aquino expressed a hope that her visit to Korea will be realized when it will be convenient for both countries.

Yi explained to her the recent developments on the Korean peninsula, the Korean Government's efforts to continue inter-Korean dialogues, and preparations for the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Summer Olympics, both to be held in Seoul. He also expressed a hope that the existing friendly relations between Seoul and Manila will further strengthen.

Korea seeks to solve inter-Korean problems through dialogues, despite North Korea's violent and hazardous lines, such as the terrorist bomb attack in Rangoon, Burma in 1983, which killed 17 ranking South Korean officials, Yi said.

In reply, Aquino said that she is opposed to using violence to solve any problem and that she hopes the South-North problems will be settled peacefully.

FRENCH SECRETARY OF STATE ON 4 DAY VISIT

BK190420 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] The French Government is willing to give economic aid to the Philippines, according to visiting French Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Didier Bariani. The French dignitary arrived Friday for 4-day bilateral talks with the Aquino government. He said his visit is to bring France's message of sympathy and friendship to the Aquino government. He said his government cannot give as much as the United States but assured that his country will give in accordance with its capacity.

Pledges Help on Debt

BK210517 Manila PNA in English 0349 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 21 (PNA) -- Visiting French Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Didier Bariani Tuesday said his country will work on the possibility of easing the external debt burden of the Philippines.

Bariani, who arrived four days ago, has met with President Aquino, Vice President and Foreign Minister Salvador H. Laurel, Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion, Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin, Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra, Natural Resources Minister Ernesto Maceda and Budget Minister Alberto Romulo.

He informed President Aquino that his government will send here some 2,000 tons of wheat immediately. He said he agreed with Ongpin, Concepcion and Mitra for the sending here of three French experts within the next few weeks.

One expert will be on tropical agriculture, another on commercial marketing, and the third on agricultural credit, he added.

A mission of French businessmen will also come to see where they could help in the country's economic recovery.

France will also welcome a mission of Filipino businessmen, Bariani said.

He said he also discussed with Deputy Foreign Minister Leticia Shahani the possibility of increasing the number of Filipino scholars to France. Because of the improved political situation, Bariani said he expects the low volume of Philippine-France trade to increase.

RAMOS WARNS MARCOS LOYALISTS ON DESTABILIZATION

HK220833 Manila THE NEWS HERALD in English 21 May 86 pp 1, 6

[By Nars Padilla]

[Excerpt] Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, AFP chief, yesterday warned Marcos loyalists reportedly training in the hills of Leyte that they face formidable enemies if they insist on their plans to destabilize the government: the New People's Army, the AFP, and the wrath of the people.

Ramos received reports that Marcos loyalists are recruiting young members to be trained, armed and paid an P800 monthly salary. "If the group really exists, three factions will go after them, namely: the NPA's, the AFP, and the people," Ramos said.

Ramos said that although he existence of the group has not been verified yet, the AFP will exhaust all means to apply penal and military laws against them. Ramos was briefed on the presence of loyalist trainees during a meeting with provincial, municipal and military leaders in Regions 7 and 8 at Camp Pitik, Palo, Leyte yesterday.

Ramos underlined the importance of the present policy of reconciliation even as he exhorted the troops to extend a helping hand to the community and more so to the rebels. The policy of attraction, according to Ramos, must be carried out to the rebels "and if they persist on committing atrocities in spite of our invitation for them to come down from the hills, we have no choice but to go after them."

BOARD INVESTIGATES ALLEGED MILITARY ENRICHMENT

HK220913 Manila THE NEWS HERALD in English 21 May 86 pp 1,6

[By Teddy Africa]

[Text] The AFP Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Board has culled the names of 44 generals and 26 other ranking officers out of the 600 military men denounced for allegedly enriching themselves while in the service.

Board sources said the military men which include members of the armed forces rank and file will be summoned to give their side on the charges that they have amassed unexplained wealth.

Camp Aguinaldo sources said most of the generals had been retired from the service after completing their tour of duty. Others were reported to have "made a financial killing" when they held juicy and "payola-generating" assignments during the past regime. "Most of these millionaire officers were known sycophants of deposed President Marcos," sources said.

Others who are still in the active service has been given either floating assignments or altogether placed in the freezer.

A number of these officers are with the AFP "think tank," a body of 13 committees assigned to desk and paper work to figure out how to increase efficiency of some offices and organizations in the military establishments, the same source said.

Col. Feliciano Cruz, director general of the Presidential Commission on Good Government turned over the list to Col. Godofredo Carreon (ret.) of the AFP anti-graft board. Brig. Gen. Manuel Flores. (ret.) board chairman, said a background check is being conducted on the generals and the officers facing investigation. Flores withheld their names. Flores and the other members of the board were briefed yesterday by Brig. Gen. Antonio Lukban, AFP logistic chief and Col. Jesus Daclan, AFP comptroller, on how the AFP releases funds for contracts such as bridges, roads and other military infrastructure project. The board was also given a fill-in on the acquisition and purchase of military hardware from other countries.

After the briefing, Flores said, "We know how past anomalies were committed. The board will adopt counter-measures to prevent such irregularities in the future."

Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, AFP chief, created the board. He said it will flush out hidden wealth amassed by some generals, ranking colonels, and other officers and even members of the rank and file.

Among the objects to be looked into by the anti-graft board are properties and assets owned by the military obtained through questionable methods such as posh residences in first class villages and subdivisions multimillion peso condominiums, logging concessions, vast fishpens and investments in blue chips corporations. The AFP board will submit its findings to Ramos who in turn will forward them to the good government commission.

NPA MAINTAINS OBJECTIVES, CONSOLIDATES FORCES

HK200821 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 May 86 pp 1, 6

[By Proc Maslog]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro -- Military intelligence said Friday that the New People's Army has not totally abandoned its objective of overthrowing the government through violent means, despite the ouster of former President Marcos.

Instead, the NPA is exploiting the change in leadership and political squabbles to consolidate the movement by fomenting an atmosphere of instability, the military report said.

Brig Gen Mariano Adalem, regional Unified Command 10 chief, in a report to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, said that the insurgents are now intensifying their buildup of its political base. At the same time, the NPA is stockpiling firearms from all possible sources, including the "agaw-armas" [arms-grabbing] drive.

All reports indicate that the insurgents are out to accelerate its guerrilla activities and propaganda warfare to win back the sympathizers it had lost with the change of leadership, Adalem said. The same report said the dissidents are expected to launch more raids and other violent activities, including kidnapping and liquidations.

The report indicated that the NPA has now 900 fully armed regular in Northern Mindanao with the support of 3,800 semi-legal team members. The same report also disclosed that 36 others have been killed and 32 others wounded since January this year, from 231 insurgency-related violent incidents. The report did not, however, disclose how many rebels are killed or wounded during the same period.

LEFTIST FRONT WARNS AQUINO ON DAVAO TALKS

OW221145 Tokyo KYODO in English 1135 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Davao, Philippines, May 22 KYODO -- The Mindanao commission of the clandestine leftist National Democratic Front (NDF) warned President Corazon Aquino against holding talks with persons misrepresenting rebel forces in the strife-torn southern Philippine island.

The warning was issued by the NDF-Mindanao, the regional alliance of revolutionary groups including the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA), on the eve of Aquino's visit to Davao Friday. It was contained in a statement given to a local newspaper and obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The leftist group also warned of "made for the media" surrender of alleged rebels following unconfirmed reports that Aquino will hold talks and accept the surrender of a number of ranking NPA leaders during her two-day visit to Davao.

Davao, the main southern Philippine city, has long been regarded by military authorities as the "urban guerrilla warfare laboratory" of the communist-led NPA. It was dubbed "Murder City" because of the spate of killings allegedly perpetrated by both NPA urban guerrilla units and military "death squads."

When asked during a televised interview Wednesday about the reasons for her first visit to the south since she took power late February, Aquino said "This is part of my campaign pledge that I would bring the government closer to the people."

Aquino is scheduled to arrive in Davao Friday. She will leave Saturday morning for Cebu, central Philippines, where she will attend a public rally and meetings with local businessmen and political leaders. She will return to Manila also on Saturday.

MUSLIM AUTONOMY FRAMEWORK PLAN REPORTED

HK220735 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 19 May 86 pp 1, 2

[By Victor Agustin]

[Text] President Aquino is set to announce the framework for autonomy for the Muslim regions of 9 and 12 when she visits Davao and Cebu this coming weekend, the INQUIRER has learned.

Under the plan, consistent with Ms. Aquino's commitment to decentralize decision-making to the respective ministry/regional heads, "national functions like agriculture, health and education will be transferred to the regional governments together with the financial resources (and the taxing powers) needed to perform these devolved functions."

The INQUIRER likewise gathered that the proposed framework would mean "the national level ministry and officers wil perform federal-wide staff and secretariat functions generally, although it (sic) will continue to be responsible for certain federal functions of defense, foreign affairs, highways, ports, airports, etc."

The proposed framework for regional autonomy is part of the recommendations now being discussed by the Cabinet on how the political structure could best serve the proposed employment-oriented, agriculture-based five-year economic development program.

Malacanang is banking on the autonomy package to lick the festering Muslim rebellion problem inherited by the three-month-old government from the Marcos Regime, the INQUIRER likewise gathered.

"Some criteria suggested in developing programs from national to local governments," according to the Cabinet working papers, include:

-- "Programs which require immediate presence, information and response to local needs and conditions (e.g., police and fire protection)."

-- "Those requiring integrated inter-service planning and delivery to area-specific 'clients' (e.g., primary health care, nutrition, etc)",

-- "Those which produce benefits and entail costs that can be contained within local boundaries (e.g., garbage collections and barangay maintenance)."

"To ensure the efficiency and effectiveness in the performance of delegated functions, national ministries must provide feasible and mutually agreed standards of performance," the proposal warned.

"To extend further local autonomy, the concept of silence of consent be adopted, a principle which states that 'what is not exercised by the center nor denied by it to the local units may be assumed to fall within the purview of local actions'." it added

This same principle is now being applied by the military in Cagayan Valley now undertaking offensive actions against the New People's Army -- in retaliation for recent NPA attacks even with the Aquino policy of defensive stance for the military, Executive Secretary Joker P. Arroyo told reporters Tuesday.

The concept of regional autonomy/decentralization is actually being tested now in Metro Manila, Joey Lina, officer-in-charge of the Metro Manila Commission, told reporters Friday,

The 17 Metro Manila towns will now reassume jurisdiction over garbage, public market and health centers in their respective areas, Lina said.

The 17 mayors, however, agreed to maintain Metro Manila as a geopolitical unit, with a much-reduced Metro Manila Commission sharing legislative powers with the 17 towns and cities, for a region-wide planning and coordination, Lina said. Still to be threshed out however, is whether the police will be returned under the control of the mayors.towns

In Metro Manila, the President is "inclined" to such a proposal, Lina said, but subject to the consent of AFP chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, who is also chief of the Integrated National Police.

There is still a "lingering fear" that mayors, especially those in the provinces, would return to using the police as their own private army, Lina admitted. But, with the new tone of morality and professionalism in the government service, mayors are expected to act like government executives and not as small town bosses, Lina said.

POLICE, SQUATTERS CLASH IN MANILA SUBDIVISION

HK221331 Hong Kong AFP in English 1319 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Manila, May 22 (AFP) -- Hundreds of squatters Thursday battled riot police with sticks and rocks after government demolition teams arrived to demolish their shanties along a subdivision outside Manila, police said. An unknown number of squatters and police were injured in the clash outside Pasig Town, a police spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Police and paramilitary Constabulary troops moved in with truncheons when a few hundred squatters barred demolition teams armed with a court order evicting them from private property, and a clash occurred, he said. The PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said the Constabulary arrested an unknown number of squatters.

COCONUT INTERCROPPING PROJECT LAUNCHED

HK211053 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] In Dumaguete City, the office of the Philippine Coconut Authority [PCA] has launched an intercropping project in coconut plantations in Negros Oriental so as to overcome the crisis faced by the coconut industry in that province. Leoncio Paray, Negros Oriental provincial coconut development officer, said the program is being sponsored by the PCA and the Food and Agriculture Ministry, which grants crop loans to small-scale coconut farmers in the form of fertilizers, chemicals, and seedlings. Paray said some 40 small-scale coconut farmers have not taken advantage of these loans.

LOANS, GRANTS TO DATE TOTAL \$1.2 BILLION

HK220847 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 May 86 p 17

[by Jun Concepcion]

[Text] A total of \$1.2 billion in loans and grants have been committed to the Aquino government by various donor countries and multilateral agencies during a two-month period from March to April this year, an official of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said yesterday.

The amount consists of some \$900 million in loans and \$300 million in grants, the NEDA official said.

The total sums, he said, are mere commitments and have yet to be formalized between the government and the donor governments and agencies.

The bulk of the committed loans was accounted for by the World Bank which committed to extend a \$421 million loan to finance various infrastructure projects and the rationalization of the public coporate sector.

The U.S. Agency for International Development committed a total of \$245 million in grants and \$50 million in loans.

The Asian Development Bank [ADB] promised to give a \$259 million loan to finance four different infrastructure and agricultural projects.

The bank extended a \$100 million loan to the Philippines a few weeks ago which will be used primarily to enable the government to generate peso counterpart funds to complete the construction of various ADB-financed projects.

Construction of the projects was earlier stopped due to the government's lack of counterpart peso funds.

The Japanese government, according to the NEDA official, committed some \$180 million in loans and \$32 million in grants.

Australia committed grants amounting to \$18 million while West Germany committed \$10 million in loans and \$5 million in grants.

Denmark committed \$11 million in loans and New Zealand \$1 million in grants.

U.S. Secretary George Shultz recently pledged to spearhead international efforts to raise some \$2 billion in loans to the Philippine government.

It was not immediately clear, however, that the amount which the U.S. will help to raise will include the loans committed by the World Bank.

Government officials earlier said the government prefers to get more aid than loans in efforts to accelerate economic recovery efforts.

MORE U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE SAID NEEDED

HK220647 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG] chairman Jovito Salonga stressed that the Philippines needs economic assistance from the United States and would prefer it in the form of economic aid rather than military assistance. He added that the reported 800 million dollars aid is a low amount.

Meanwhile, Salonga also said that his commission has been able to track down some 5 billion pesos' worth of Marcos' illegal wealth and expects to get an additional 2 billion in the coming months.

Salonga is currently in Washington with another official Rene Saguisag.

GOVERNMENT HOPES TO LIMIT FOREIGN LOAN PAYMENTS

HK220553 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Philippines will try to limit its payment of foreign loans to 1 to 2 billion dollars this year so that the greater part of the country's foreign exchange earnings will not go solely to the payment of foreign loans and may be used to develop the country. This action will also mean more complications for creditor countries.

The debt service and economic targets of the Aquino government will be presented during the World Bank meeting in Tokyo next week.

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